



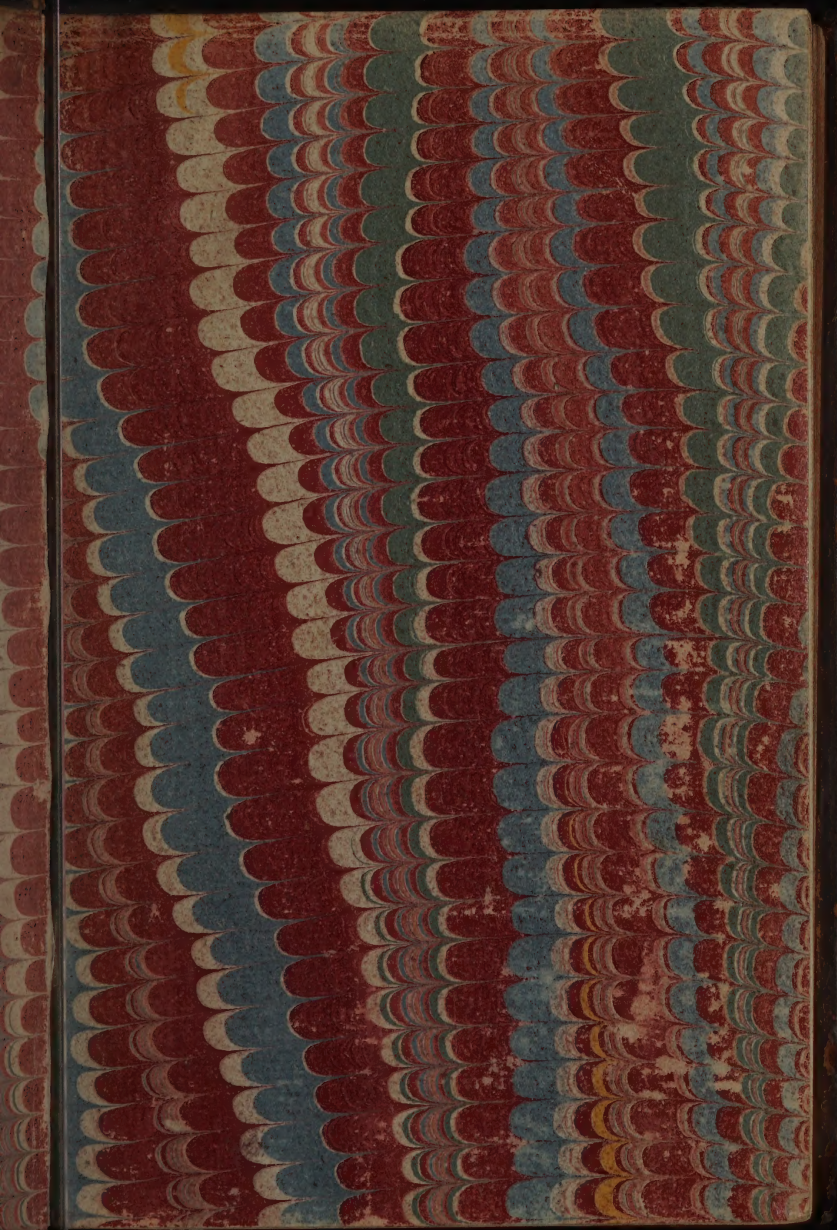
DUQUESNE
VOYAGE











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POUCHOT DE CHANTASSIN, C M
Carabogues 11/2/33 (2)

A
New Voyage
 TO THE
EAST-INDIES
 IN THE
 Years 1690 and 1691.

BEING
 A full Description of the Isles of
Maldives, Cocos, Andamants, and the Isle
 of *Ascension*; and all the *Forts and Gar-*
risons now in possession of the *French*,
 with an Account of the *Customs, Man-*
ners, and *Habits* of the *Indians*.

By Monsieur *Duquesne*.

To which is added,
 A New Description of the *Canary Islands*,
Cape Verd, Senegal and Gambia, &c.
 Illustrated with *Sculptures*, together with a new
 Map of the *Indies*, and another of the *Canaries*.
Done into English from the Paris Edition.

LONDON,
 Printed for *Daniel Dring* at the *Harrow and Crown*
 near *St. Dunstan's Church* in *Fleetstreet*, 1696.

EAST INDIES

1117

YOUNG MAN

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A full description of the life of
Abraham Lincoln, and his
of his life, and all the facts
which now is a history of the
with an account of the
and the life of the

By Andrew Johnson.

200000

Printed for David Colver at the Press,
near St. Dunstons Church in Fleet Street.

THE
Author's Preface.

IF I had taken the leasure to make a serious Reflection on the boldness of my design, I had not publisht this Account of my Voyages; the raw Age in which I made them, had been a sufficient reason to discourage me from it, besides the consideration of the polite Age we live in. For tho' I have followed Truth with the greatest severity, yet these Relations want perhaps those other Advantages that are apt to recommend things of this nature to the Reader, such as Air and Stile in the writing of them, so much valued at present.

Yet however devoid of these Ornaments, I shall venture to present them to the Publick, after so ingenious an acknowledgment, in hopes the young Traveller will meet with a mild and easy censure of his first attempts, while he gives the Publick a most exact account of the particulars of Monsieur Duquesne's Voyage and Undertakings in the Indies, which has been so earnestly and impatiently expected; of his

The Author's Preface.

Engagements with the English and Dutch; with the Advantages he has gain'd of them; and his Conduct in bringing back a Squadron safe with which his Majesty entrusted him, through a Voyage of six Thousand Leagues, through Storms and Tempests, and all the rage and power of the Enemy.

Perhaps the Reader will be pleas'd with the variety of the Subject with which I have furnish'd this Relation, which can't but render it the more agreeable and entertaining; as likewise with some Remarks curious enough, concerning the various Nations and Countries thro' which we pass'd, and the horrible Tempest that surpris'd us in our return in the Latitude of Mascarin. I have writ all in the natural order in which they fell out, with exactness and fidelity, obliging my self to omit nothing of moment, and to relate nothing of which I was not an Eye-witness: So after acquainting the Reader before hand with some Repetitions, which by a frequent recurring of the same things were unavoidable, I have nothing more to desire for his satisfaction, or my own advantage, but that the stile had been more polite and correct, there being nothing else wanting to compleat his satisfaction.

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A
RELATION
OF A
Voyage and Return
FROM THE
EAST-INDIES.

CHAP. I.

*An Account of the Squadron designed
by France to the East-Indies.*

THE Enemies of *France* having
alarm'd all *Europe* for her De-
struction, expected their Pro-
jects would have equal suc-
cess in these Parts of the World;
that the Commerce she had establish'd
in the *Indies*, would follow the Re-
volution of *Siam*, and be intirely

A 3 ruin'd,

A Voyage and Return

ruin'd, as being too much employ'd at home, in her own immediate Defence; to be able to send any Forces to those distant Parts of the World: But the GOD of Armies having defeated the Designs of so numerous and Confederated an Enemy, has so visibly extended his Holy protection to the sacred Person of his Majesty and his Dominions; that in spite of all their utmost Efforts, he has been the Aggressor, and set on them first and their Factories in those Parts; a sufficient demonstration of the Glory and Strength of *France*. To this Enterprize the King appointed six Ships; which were the *Bird*, the *Lyon*, the *Dragon*, the *Jolly*, the *Prosperus*, and the *Rock*; the Three first of which were fitted at *Brest*, the rest in the Magazines of the *East*, at *Port Lewis*, where the Squadron Rendevouz'd; which being join'd the beginning of *February*, (1700,) the Equipages were distributed in this manner.

Monsieur *Duquesne*, whom the Court had made Commandant, pitch'd upon the *Jolly*, mounted with Forty four Guns, Two hundred and Fifty Men. He

from the East-Indies.

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He had *Messieurs* the Commander of *Portere* for Second Captain, *D' Anberville* for Lieutenant, *de Voutron, Fauche*, and *Baron*, for Ensigns, with Ten Guard-Marines.

Monsieur le Chealier d' Aire Commanded the *Bird*, of 42 Guns and Two hundred Men; *Messieurs de la Neufville* was his Second Captain, *De la Villaulcers*, and *Demons*, his Lieutenants.

Monsieur Joyeuse went on Board the *Prosperus* of 44 Guns, and Two hundred and Thirty Men; he had *Messieurs Granche*, for Lieutenant, his Son and *de la Perine* for Ensigns.

Monsieur Hortin took the *Rock*, of 38 Guns, and 200 Men; *Messieurs le Chevalier de de Bouchetier*, and *le Vasseur* were his Lieutenants.

Monsieur de Chamoreau, Commanded the *Lyon*, which is a Frigat of 24 Guns, and a 180 Men; he had no other Officers then *Monsieur de Presac* his Lieutenant; Two *Capuchins* went aboard him, who was bound for *Surate*.

And *Monsieur Quistly* boarded the *Dragon*, which is another Frigat of 28 Guns, 280 Men; *Monsieur de Chenelon*

Chenelon was his Lieutenant. Two Companies of Foot with their Officers, were over and above distributed a board these six Ships, and some Religious, which the Papist Priest *Tachard* carried to the *Indies*; they came aboard us with a Secretary, and Three Mandarins of the late King of *Siam*.

CHAP. II.

The Squadron Sails.

THE Squadron thus Arm'd, had not been Ten Days before the *lire of Groge*, when Orders came from Court to Sail immediately. So *Friday* the 24th of *February* (90,) *Monsieur Duquesne* coming aboard at Five in the Evening, weighed Anchor, after giving the parting Guns; we presently were under Sail, with the Wind at *North*, and a delicate Gale as could be wish'd, but it did not last long, coming about at Ten next Morning; so that we were obliged to put back again; but by the 27th we Sailed again,

gain, the Wind being more favourable than at first.

We made such way, that we soon lost sight of Land, which we were not like to see again in a good while; The Wind continued so favourable, that by the Tenth of *March* we doubled *Cape Feneſter*: The Sea is commonly Boisterous in this Latitude, and the passage dangerous, and there's no bearing much Sail here.

The Sixth Day became remarkable, by an Accident that happen'd to us. The Gabier, who is one appointed to look to the Maſts and Tackling, hanging on the Foremaſt Sail-yard, unhappily fell into the Sea, which was then very boisterous; we did all we could to ſave him, threw out Ropes, hoisted out the Boat, but all in vain, for the Storm was ſo violent, that he ſunk preſently.

Great are the terrors of this Element, and there is nothing apter to make a Man ſerious, when he conſiders there is but a Plank between him and Eternity.

C H A P. III.

*The first discovery of Land, since we
lost sight of it, Remarks on the
Dike of Teneriffe.*

WE Steer'd our Course for the
Madera Islands, where with
pleasure, we waited to take in some
refreshments, tho' 'twas not above
Nine Days that we had lost sight of
Land. But the Currents which we
met having carried us too far to the
East, or rather to the great Foggs at
Land, having hinder'd us from the
sight of it; we left it to the Right,
without perceiving it, till we had
doubled it. The 9th we discovered
the Isle of *Savages*, which was the
first Land we made since we parted
from *Port-Lewis*; 'tis scituated in 30
Degrees of the *Northern* Latitude, and
Twenty Minutes Longitude. This is
an uninhabited Island, very dangerous
for the Steep Craggy Rocks that in-
viron it for above a League; that
scarce

scarce a Boat can go a Shoar; by this sight of Land we judg'd we were not far from the *Canary* Islands, which doubtless we should have come to sight of, the next Morning, if we had not been delay'd by a Calm, which happily lasted but a little while; for, in the Evening it began to blow a brisk Gale, so that by the Eleventh, at 7 a Clock in the Morning, we were within Thirteen Lagues of the Pike of *Teneriffe*.

By Noon we were near it, being in Twenty Eight Degrees, Thirty Six Minutes, *North* Latitude, and Three Hundred and Fifty Nine Degrees of Longitude. The Pike of *Teneriffe* is seen Forty Leagues off, and undoubtedly may pass for one of the highest Mountains in the World. Some make it seven Leagues high, others Twelve. This proud Mountain wraps its head in the Clouds, which appears white, by reason of the Snow that covers it Winter and Summer, rising through the middle Region of the Air, which makes it so cold that none was ever able to mount it.

Behind

Behind this Mountain stands the Town of *Canary*, of which the Island bears the Name; which is very Fruitful, and abounds in Corn, and is famous for the rich Wines it produces, which are carried to all Parts of the World. There are besides Three other Islands; the first, that of *Gomer*, of the same side with the Pike, and not above Six or Seven Leagues distant. The second is *Palm Island*, memorable for the Death of Forty Jesuits, who going to *Brazill*, to Preach the Faith of Jesus Christ, were there Martyr'd by the *Calvinists*, about a Hundred Years ago. This latter is opposite to the Pike of *Teneriffe*, and is about Twelve or Thirteen Leagues distant. We pass between these two, having *Palme Island* on the Right, and the Pike of *Teneriffe* on the Left. And the last is the Isle of *Fer*, where Geographers commonly place the first *Meridian*. These four Islands belong to *Spain*, so that we could not take a view of them, but at a distance, by reason of the War between us and it,

CHAP. IV.

*The different Opinions concerning the
Trading Winds.*

THe Wind which had hardly stir'd all day, began to blow fresh in the Evening, so that we cou'd easily perceive the Trading Winds, which are so useful for Sailing; they are call'd so by reason of their continuing three or four months without changing. These sort of Winds Blow always from the North East in the Southern parts, and from the South East in the Northern parts, which very much perplexes curious people to find out the true reason of it. Some maintain, that the Trading Winds are no other then those which blow from the West, and the North with great violence, which passing over *Europe* to the East and South, rarify and grow weaker as they approach the warmer Climates; on the contrary, in the Southern

thern parts, the Western and Southern Winds blowing with the same violence towards *Africa*, are thence driven towards the East and North, and abate by degrees as they approach the warmth of the Line, and quite cease when they reach it.

Others explain this matter after a different manner; they will have it, that the excessive heats of the Line draw these Winds from the Poles, where the Exhalations and Vapors, which are the matter of the Winds, being stronger and in greater abundance cause more violent and lasting ones, and that afterwards these Winds or Exhalations are drawn towards the Zone, and there abated by the excessive heat.

Behold the best Account I could meet with, to satisfy those who are curious in this matter; but whatever the Natural Cause of them may be, it may be truly said, they are the sweetest Winds that blow.

CHAP. V.

The Squadron Anchors at the Island of Saintiague.

HETHER we had reason to admire our happiness, and to hope we should soon arrive at *Saintiague*, where we were to stay some days; our only misery was a violent Fever which seiz'd our men, and of which fifty lay dangerously ill, tho' we had been but three weeks at sea. 'Twas then the *R. R. F. F.* the *Jesuites*, found an opportunity to exercise their Zeal and Charity; they *Confest* the sick, gave them Instructions for dying well, and assisted them with their own provisions: It must be said, that from the first day they came aboard us, they had such care, by their Holy Example, to promote a good life amongst the Officers and seamen, that far from following the loose way of others, they thought themselves oblig'd to behave themselves according
to

to the utmost severity of the *Christian Religion*; they were willingly present at their Catechisms and Sermons on *Sundays*, and at Mass every morning, with prayers at the end for the King; in the evening we said our beads, and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin, making an *Examen of Conscience* on our knees with an *Act of Contrition*.

Great was the happiness and advantages we had from the company of these Religious persons, but chiefly the sick; one of the *Mandarins* nam'd *Pipit* dy'd the 7th day of his distemper; the *R. P. Fachard* took particular care of him, never leaving him till he had administer'd extream *Unction*, and the *Holy Eucharist* to him. Of these three Envoys of the King of *Siam*, he converted two to the *Catholick Religion*, Baptizing them at *Brest*; and 'tis to be presum'd that the third would soon have yeilded too, to the Authority of his holy Life, as well as that of his Arguments.

All the funeral Honours due to a person of Quality, were paid to this deceas'd *Mandarin*: Four *Gard Marines*, held the corners of the Pall, and after
the

the usual prayers on the occasion, threw him into the Sea, with five Guns, fir'd at a distance one from another, which made it more sad and Sollemn; 'twas believ'd in the rest of the ships that 'twas an Ensign dy'd; so to honour him, and to testify to their Admiral their concern for him, they struck their sails, and lay by, rolling in his way sadly, as if there were none to govern them; as soon as the ship past by, they hoist their Sails again.

The next night, which was the 15th, we past the *Tropick of Cancer*; which our Pilots perceiv'd next day by the computation they made; we had made vast way in a little time; being but sixteen days since we left *France*; the winds and seas seem'd to conspire to prosper our Voyage, every thing succeeding to our wishes.

The 17th. in the Evening Monsieur *Duquesne* made the *Cape*, of which he gave notice to the rest by the signal of a Gun, and two fires, one on the Round-top of the Main-Mast, and the other on the Round-top of the Fore-mast, for fear we should run

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aground

aground in the night, from which we could not be far, according to the Elevation taken at Noon: Next morning by break of day we perceiv'd the *Isle of May* to the left, which we no sooner doubel'd, but we saw that of *Saintiage*, our Commandant perceiving no ships at anchor there, hoisted a white Flag, and an Admiral Flame on the top of the Main-mast, and coming near, he sent in the *Rock* to sound; there appear'd at a great distance a Man on the top of a hill, who hoisted a flag six several times, in all probability to give the Inhabitants notice of the number of our ships. *Saturday* the 18th. of *March*, at two in the afternoon, we anchor'd half a League from the shoar.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

A Description of the Isle and Town of Saintiague, Manners and Religion of the Inhabitants.

THE Commandant Monsieur de Pouriere went a shoar by Monsieur Duquesnes orders, to complement the Governor, and to desire leave to take in fresh water, and to settle the ceremony of the Salute; who easily agreed to what was desir'd, and not only so, but promis'd we should be furnisht with Beef and Mutton, tho' very scarce among themselves; but when it came to the ceremony of the Salute, this raw young Governor, who in all probality was ignorant of what was really our due, refused to answer Gun for Gun; but the Commandant provokt at it, told him; that the French expected other returns, and that seeing he stood so stiff upon't, they would not salute him at all:

'Twas then he perceiv'd he mistook
his men, and so presently agreed to
five Guns each,

He made a present of two dozen of
sweet *Oranges* and some *Chocollet* to
Monsieur de Pouriere, having neither
wine nor sweet-meats tho' very com-
mon here; who after he had receiv'd
them, went to give our Commandant
an account of what past, and to ac-
quaint him he had been inform'd by
the Governor, that two *Dutch* and one
English ship parted thence but three
days before, bound for the *East-Indies*,
and that they expected two more
suddainly: We lay at anchor till *Tues-*
day evening, without perceiving any,
whence we pursu'd our Voyage, not
a little troubl'd to miss 'em, for they
could hardly escape falling into our
hands: Being now late, we omitted
the Salute till next morning, which
was *Palm-Sunday*; when after our
Almoner had said *Mass*, we saluted
them with five Guns, and they returned
the same number.

Being curious to go a shoar, I got
leave of the Commandant, and so
went in company with *F. Tachard*,
and

and' an Officer, who carri'd a small Present from Monsieur *Duquesne* to the Governour; at our landing, we saw some *Negro's* that were quite naked, excepting a ragg about their waists to cover their nakedness. There's a Chapel on the shoar dedicated to the *Blessed Virgin*, and a little further a Battery of four Iron Guns; we were forced to climb, 'till we came to a certain Bastion, on which were mounted six old Iron Guns, of which the biggest was a six pounder. This is the best fortify'd part of the Island, where the *Portuguese* keep a Garrison, but the Soldiers are fitter to be pitt'y'd than fear'd.

F. Tachard askt them news of the Governour; they shew'd him a Church where he was, into which we enterd, when he presently rose from his seat, and gave us a graceful salute, the Father after talking some time with him in *Portuguese*, went out; but I continu'd some time observing the Ceremonies, and other things; after blessing the *Palm* branches, a *Negro* Priest said Mass, assisted by a *Deacon*.

They are more devout and solemn than we, but we were a little scandaliz'd at the negress women half naked in the Church, who as they star'd at us, so we could not but stare at them; as likewise at the Governour's Guard, which was a wretched one; their Arms were a Pike and a Sword of an extraordinary length, with a pair of Beads about their necks.

In the midst of them stood the little Governor, of about twenty year old; a Native of *Lisbon*, pretty tall, but meanly clad, and of a poor meen and air.

This is a wretched Country, and fitter to starve than live in; they have their wine and bread from *Lisbon*, or from the *Canarys*, the latter is 8 pence a pound, and the first half a Crown a Bottel, which holds no more than the Chopin of *France*; 'tis true the *Negro's* who are naturally sober, use little wine, or even so much as bread; living for the most part of dry cake well prest, which is made of the root of a tree call'd *Macoc*, the Juice of which is a subtil poison.

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They are all Soldiers or Slaves, and so given to robbery, that its hard to escape them, if they meet one in a by place, they are very fond of knives, ribbon, needles, but chiefly of Biscuit, for which they readily give Oranges, Goiavès, Bannanes, and several other fruits. they have large proportion'd bodies, short friz'd hair, little beard, and whither hunting or walking, they still carry bows and arrows about 'em.

No one will wonder at the sterillity of the Country, when he is told it has not rain'd there in four years time; which has made the ground so parcht and barren, that of 25000 inhabitants which it had, there dy'd 6000 in two years time of hunger, as one of their Priests told me, with whom I discours'd some time in Latin.

The Cloathing of the women is only a piece of white or blew cotton cloath, that covers them from the waist to the knee, the rest of their body is naked, going barefoot and bare-headed, only sometimes wearing an ordinary handkerchief round their heads, and for the most part gold

Rings, or three wooden pins in their ears. These women have their peculiar beauties, as tall, proper, comely, and well proportioned bodies, and a certain great air, especially when they walk; they smoak much, and are scarce ever seen without a pipe.

I was to see the Town of *Saintiague*, about three Leagues from the place our ships lay at anchor; where I was told that he whom I took for Governor, was only the Lieutenant; the Governor residing always at *Saintiague*. This is a little Town in a bottom, situated by the sea side, thro' which a large River takes its course, descending from the neighbouring Mountains which surround it; It has a matter of three hundred houses; the best part of the Inhabitants are *Portuguese*, the rest *Negro's*, these last go naked, the former clad after their own Fashion, having all Beads about their necks.

There's a Bishop in this Twon, a Native of *Lisbon*, of the order of *St. Frances*; and two Convents, one of Men and the other of Women. There's a Fort raised at the end of the Town,

Town, mounted with two cast Guns, and at the foot of it eight, and three Iron Guns, mouting towards the sea; hard by, is the Isle of *Fougo*, or the *Fiery Island*, where there's a very high mountain, whose top casts, fourth flames continually, with a thick smoak. This is all I could remark in the short stay I made here.

Saintiague is an Island of *Cape Verde*, belonging to the *Portuguese*, which is scituated in fourteen degrees, thirty six Minutes North Lat, and three hundred and fifty three degrees thirty Minutes Longitude. I have already said, that provisions were so scarce here, that we could have but one Bullock, which was divided amongst us all, and some sheep for the Commodant, but plenty of excellent Fish is caught here. We got some barrels of fresh water which was none of the best, and hard to come by, having it out of a dirty Cistern, which was a great distance from the sea. After we had fill'd our empty Casks with it, Monsieur *Duquesne* weigh'd Anchor, and left *Saintiague*, *Tuesday* the 21st. at five a clock in the morning.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

The passing of the Line in 358 Deg. of Long. and the burning Heats that are felt there.

WE made great way the first three or four days, but the winds begining to slack as we approacht the heats of the Line, we did not sail so fast as before; being now *Passion*, or the *Holy-week*, Father *Tachard* would omit nothing of the holy Exercises practis'd at this time, we sung the *Tenebra*, we hear'd Sermons, and tho' at sea perform'd all the duties of Christians who have more conveniency.

Holy Friday the 24th. of *March* this Father, who often studdied the Courses and Position of the Stars, foretold us an Ecclipse of the Moon, which should happen at seven a clock in the evening, five Minutes past, and end exactly at ten, which accordingly

ngly did; it could not be seen in *France*, for according to the Calculation, it was to be at *Paris* at four a clock in the afternoon.

In the mean time we insensibly approacht the Line, the passing of which I don't admire people should dread so much, we had nothing now but faint winds, very inconstant, and almost continual Calms, caus'd by the excessive heats which are felt here, which would be unsupportable, if it were not for those suddain gusts that abate them, and cool the air from time to time; these suddain gusts, or rather rains, are commonly accompanied with cool winds that greatly comfort this scorching passage, they rise and cease of a suddain, and then a burning calm succeeds.

'Tis then that troops of Fish leaping above the water of all sides, invite the seamen to take them. I remember one day when the sea was a little rough, I, with no little pleasure, beheld shoals of fish leaping above the water, and continuing so as long as their fins were wet, to avoid the pursuit of the *Bonites*, a large fish, who is a great devourer of the rest; the others;

others ; as I said, are forc'd to quit their natural Element, and have much a do to save themselves by their often rising above it, being often snapt by them in the air ; so that its almost impossible for them to escape the enemy, who incessantly pursues them in vast numbers. We took a great many of these *Bonites*, which resemble Shads, but are more savory and firm.

We were within five or six Degrees of the Line, and so had continual Calms, which were almost unsupportable, and by which we suffer'd extreamly ; our Wine and Victuals were spoil'd, and our Vigor consum'd, and our Distemper encreast daily through the long and violent heats ; the very air that should keep us alive, almost suffocated us, night and day the heat was so excessive, that the very Sealing-wax we had in our trunks melted. The rest of this Month past without any thing remarkable, save that it thunderd, with violent winds and rain, which forwarded us very much in our Voyage.

'Twas

'Twas not a little gastly, in the horrors of dark and tempestious nights, to see the Lightnings perform the office of the day ; which gave us no other prospect, but that of a rising and a yawning Ocean, into which two of our Men fell.

The fifth of *April* our Carpenter being at the ships head, fell into the sea ; but being a good swimmer, he kept himself above water till he got hold of a rope, and then cry'd out for help ; one of the Seamen presently gave him his foot to take hold of, which breaking, he drew the other in with him, we gave 'em all the assist- we could, and with much ado saved them both at last.

The way we made this night, brought us considerably nearer the Line ; which we long'd to pass, almost quite spent with the intollerable heats we had endur'd for sixteen days time ; only those rains which fell helpt to abate the raging heats, and were a great relief to us ; at length, after a great deal of them, accompanied with Thunder and Lightnings *Sunday* the ninth of *April* at ten a clock in the morning

morning we past the Line, which we so impatiently long'd for.

Here the Mariners use an execrable custom of a mock Baptism, which is fitter to be condemned with the utmost severity than describ'd.

CHAP. VIII.

How the sick recover'd after passing the Line. Monsieur Hortin, Captain of the Rock, dies.

TO the Southward of the Line we met with as long and frequent Calms as before; which for some days made us as earnestly wish to get at a distance from it, as we did before to pass it. There is nothing distresses a Voyage more than those Calms, while unable to go backward or forward, you are forced to remain whole days in the same place, scorching and broiling in the sun, and tumbling on great rolling waves and surges which are met here, notwithstanding the calm, so that one

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can scarce stand on the deck; but being past the Line about a hundred Leagues, our miseries began to abate, as the South-East winds began to blow, when we found our selves as in another Climate, and to breath a more temperate air: This change rejoyc'd us all, and was very happy for the sick, of whom two parts in three presently recover'd, besides our hopes of doubling the Cape of *Good-hope* encreast daily, by the vast way we made, which sometimes was no less than 55 Leagues in 24 hours, and had been more, if all our ships had sail'd alike, and one had not been forc'd to stay for the other, that we might not lose company, so that we could not make the same use of the wind as a single ship would.

About this time Monsieur *Duquesne* was inform'd of Monsieur *Hortin's* sickness, who was Captain of the *Rock*, as he was a person of great experience, and whom he had a great value for, he often visited him, and order'd the Surgeons of the Squadron to consult of his Distemper, who seem'd to have good hopes of him, but his
age

age made him yield to the violence of it, which took him off the 22^d. of *April*; all were very sensible of his death, which was presently known by the signal from the *Rock*, which all day had her two Flags half down, and her Fane quite down, the common Ceremonies with which the funeral of a Captain is honor'd, with eleven Guns when he is thrown into the Sea.

Our Commandant was not much put to it to chuse one in his place, who was fit to succeed him; for he presently chose *Monsieur Pouriere*, who accepted the employment, to the great regret of his own Crew, who were not a little troubled to part with him, who they lov'd so entirely for his many excellent Accomplish-
ments.

CHAP

CHAP. IX.

*Passage of the Tropick of Capricorn,
and the Cape of Good-hope hap-
pily doubled.*

WE had calms for some days; and the winds were changeable, but this did not last long, for blowing fresher and fresher, we past the *Tropick of Capricorn* the 15th. at ten at night. In this traverse you're expos'd to a great many different Climates; as we approach'd the *Cape*, we had delicate cool winds, which were not a little pleasant to us, after coming out of the scorching heats of the Line: These two contrary qualities acting on the same bodies, produced violent effects, and thence our sickness at land had its original.

Hitherto we sail'd as happily as we could wish, nothing was more beautiful than the sea, which seem'd to join with the winds to Expedite our Voyage;

the very water in the hold was not corrupted, and being as happy as could be expected in a voyage of this kind; in a little time we met with the western winds, which were necessary to gain the Cape of *Good-hope*.

The third of *May* we had them, but they lasted but a little while, coming about to the North, which serving our purpose as well, we sailed sixty Leagus in 24 hours with them, which made us hope we should soon be at the place where we were to anchor, which every one earnestly desir'd, so that our joy was excessive when we reach'd the height of the Cape. The judgment of our Pilots was confirm'd by the sight of the *Velvet Channels*, call'd so from a large Bird which is only seen there, because half their plumage resembles *Velvet* spotted with *Pearl*. We saw two whales, with a great number of birds of different kinds, and all sorts of colours; the Calms delaid us there very much, and hinderd our passing it, as did likewise the contrary winds.

But

But with the blessing of God overcoming these difficulties, *Sunday* the 28th. of *May* we doubled the Cape of *Good-hope*, with a northerly wind as good as we could wish. It's here our ships refit going to the *Indies*, and meet with plenty of provisions; but being in War with the *Dutch*, who are Masters of the Cape, we were depriv'd of this happiness; and so without so much as passing within sight of it, we continued our Voyage, resolving not to stop till we reacht *Amiouam*, vvhich is 800 Leagues farther.

CHAP. X.

The Bank of Needles, a most dangerous passage: And sight of the Isle of Madagascar: Which made us rejoice.

IT still blew so fair, that next day by seven a clock, in the morning we arriv'd at the Bank of *Needles*, tho' it be forty Leagues from the Cape;

the *Rock* sounding, found ground at the first, of which she gave us notice by a gun, and hanging out a flag; our Commandant order'd *Te Deum* to be sung at the end of Mass, to thank GOD for it, after which we made it our business to get over it as soon as possible, the winds rising making that place more dangerous, which at last grew to a storm.

We could scarce bear as much sail as was sufficient to keep the ships head to the Waves, which while they roll'd, often enter'd into them; the *Dragon* lost the round top of her Main-Mast, which Monsieur *Duquesne* observing, he furl'd a sail, that she might not be left too far behind, which delay'd us a little, for else we had been clear of the Bank that very day. At four in the evening we saw the *Needles Cape* on our left, at about five or six Leagues distance, two sea wolfs, and a power of strange birds.

After having happily past this Bank, and the Cape of *Good Hope*, we were past the worst, and had little more to fear; we had no more to wish but to discover the Isle of *Madagascar*, which was absolutely

folutely necessary in our passage to *Amiouam*; fifteen days we impatiently waited for it, at which time *Thursday* the 15th. of *June* we made it, which greatly rejoic'd us all, and for which we sung *Te-Deum*; for had we mist it, we should scarce have been able to have found a place to refit, or so much as know where we were.

We were not long before we saw the *Lyon*, who was sent upon the discovery; Monsieur *Duquesne* finding he was just on the Island, struck sail, and with the signal of a Gun gave notice to the other ships to follow him; so steering North, North East, the wind in our stern, we left *Madagascar* on the right to the East of us.

This is perhaps the greatest Island in the world; its scituated betwixt 12 and 22 Degrees of south Lat. its allow'd to be about 800 Leagues in compass, and 300 over; it has several Kings, each having a good part of it; they often make War on one another, and command a great many men, of whom some are so savage, that they care not for having any commerce

with strangers, and often eat one another, and their neighbours when they can light on them.

CHAP. XI.

The Squadron anchors at the Isle of Moelly.

WE had all along resolv'd to anchor at *Amiouam*, but the report of some, who assur'd us that 'twas easier to be supply'd with water and wood at *Moelly*, which is but eight Leagues distant from it, made Monsieur *Duquesne* go thither first; that after having well refresh't his Company and supply'd his wants, he might be in a condition when he came to *Amiouam*, to fight and chase the ships he hop'd to meet there, being the place where the *English* use to take in Supplies. This conduct proceeded from his great prudence and experience, and knowledge in those parts; for you must know, that if you misse anchoring at *Amiouam*,

'tis

'tis impossible almost to regain it; and if we had gone thither at first, what a mortification it would have been to us, meeting shipping there, to see 'em weigh anchor immediately and be gone, without our being able to follow them.

So that we could not take our measures better, and earnestly desiring to arrive there, and the wind serving, the Pilots every day encourag'd us to hope for't. On the 20th. of *June* we had the happiness to descry it; and the Sentinel whom we had plac'd on the Top-gallant no sooner cry'd *Land*, but we hoist our Flag to give the welcome news to the other ships who were behind, which caus'd a vast and universal joy, especially amongst the Sick, who would needs come above-board to behold the Land where they hop't for recovery. Being now late we durst not come too nigh, so having lain By half the night, *Wednesday* the 21st. of *June* we came to an anchor before the Isle of *Moelly*, between nine and ten in the morning.

CHAP. XII.

Monsieur Duquesne treats with the King of the Isle of Moelly for refreshments, who furnishes him in abundance: Its Situation, Fertility Religion, and Manners of its Inhabitants,

THE Commandant gave the Gun of Assurance, the common practice amongst strange Nations when War is not intended, and sent in a sloop with Monsieur *Voutron* and the *Scrivain*, to know if upon presenting the King, we might be furnish'd with Refreshments and other necessaries, they were receiv'd as well as could be imagin'd by these Savages, who seem'd very well pleas'd to exchange their Fruits and Cattel with us.

This great present consisted of two pieces of *Indian* cloath, and an old Musket, which the latter carried, who had

had been in the Country before, and spoke some *Portuguese*; he presented them to the King, who was then in a sweet and pleasant Valley, call'd the *Queen's Creek*, lying by the sea side, about 7 Leagues from where we anchord. If one may judge of his Condition, by his Brother and Sons, whom I have seen selling Hens for paper, it can be none of the greatest; this little Prince was charm'd with our Present, and signify'd to the Scrivain by an *Indian Portuguese*, who had liv'd some time in the Country, and was his Interpreter, and Intendant of his Affairs, that he thanked the Commandant, and that he would give Orders to his subjects to furnish us with whatever we had occasion, for our Money.

Upon which Monsieur *Duquesne* went a shoar that very day, to regulate every thing, that there might be no disorder or difference on the landing; and orderd the Captains of the several ships, to command the seamen on pain of death to offer no violence to the *Negro's*. Next morning we debarkt our sick to the number of about

bout fifty, most ill of the Scurvy, for whom we made Tents by the Sea side; the *Negro's* came from all parts, with provisions, *viz.* Oxen, Cows, Kids, and almost all other kinds of provisions, which we had plenty every day, and at very easy rates.

Our Commandant finding he could at an easy rate refresh his men here after their vast fatigues, allow'd them while they staid every day, as much fresh provisions morning and evening as they could eat, which were so plentiful and cheap, that a fat Ox cost but four Livers and a half, a Cow but a Crown, and Pullets, Kids, Eggs, Milk, and Fruits we had in exchange for Knives, Paper, and bits of Linen.

Of all other, they were fondest of Knives and Linen: Being generally Magicians, they made use of the first to make characters, and with the last they cover'd their nakedness; and some of our men have bought an Ox for an old tatter'd Shirt.

They were no less careful to supply us aboard than a shoar, coming every day in their Pirogues, which are little

Banows

Banows made of the hollow'd trunk of a Tree; bringing us Ananas, Bananes, Cocos, Lemons, Oranges, and divers other excellent sorts of fruits, which we had in plenty, as well as of the other provisions while we lay at anchor.

Every meal seem'd a feast, and indeed we had no less than four or five severall sorts of meat at each, as much water as we would drink, besides our ration of wine at dinner and supper, instead of *Aqua-vita*, which we were forc'd to drink for two months; we had great plenty of Oranges, and scarce eat or drank any thing without them, so that our present happiness made us forget all our past miseries, which lasted three whole months, without so much as sight of land, and having no more than was just necessary to keep us alive.

Moelly is an Island of *Arabia*, which may be about 30 Leagues in compass, scituated in 12 degrees of south Lat. and 63 Degrees 40 Minutes of Long. its very fertil through the frequent rains that fall, and hedg'd in with steep rocks; both its vallies and high

mountains are cover'd with woods, in which fat Oxen are found, differing from those of *France*, by a bunch of fat on their backs like a worm; as likewise Kidds, Poule, Pindados, Ringdoves, and a great deal of other game, and there would be excellent fowling if it were not for the inaccessible Mountains. The *Orange* and *Lemon* Trees are not its least glory, they stand so thick in some places, that one may smell them at a great distance, and distinguish them amongst crowds of other odoriferoous Trees, not inferiour even to them; there's scarce a sweet *Orange* to be found, but all of a delicate tartness, except some of a smaller growth, that have neither the form nor size of a true natural *Orange*.

The Island produces besides, excellent *Rice* and *Mill*, thrice as large as that of *France*, and were it more even and compact, would be very fit to live in. It seems to be but thinly peopl'd, for I saw but one Village, of about threescore or fourscore cottages, made and cover'd with branches of *Palm*, under which the *Negro's* lie; the entrance into them is so low, that

one

one must creep to get into them; they sleep on Mats of rice straw, which they lay on the ground; one sees nothing here which does not argue the miserable life these Savages lead.

Taking a view of this Village, I had the curiosity to enter into a wretched Hutt, built of stone and sand; which they told me was a Pagod, or Temple, in which these wretches worship an Oxe's head, the forehead being inscrib'd with *Arabick* characters; they made him a grot in the wall, adorn'd with shell work, where they plac'd this reverend Divinity, and which they remov'd a little after we went in, whither 'twas they believ'd us unworthy to look on't, or that they observ'd we slighted it as much as it deserv'd: The middle of the Pagod was matted, and on the right side as you enter, there was a pole stuck in the ground fork't at one end, supporting some mother of pearl burnt; on the inside, which I suppose serv'd for a lamp; and a little lower of the same side, was a stair-case of 5 steps, leading to the place where the King sits.

To

To so many superstitions they joyn a great many of the *Mahometan*, so true it is that the Author of that infamous Religion, has spread his follies at so great a distance. When we arriv'd, it was the time of their *Ramadam*, or *Lent*, during which they mayn't eat, drink, or smoak 'till the sun's set, and they are so exact in't, that no persuasions or threats can make 'em do otherwise.

These *Negro's* appear'd more Savage than they of *Saintiague*, ruder in their manner of living, but more plain in their dealing; they are large, and strong bodied, but very fearful; a Pistol shot will scare them so, that they'll run into the woods to hide, so much they fear fire Arms. They were long beards, and their hair covering their shoulders; for 'tis to be observ'd, that to the south of the Line, they all have them thus, and to the North, have short friz'd hair; they all go naked, having only a rag of Linen to cover their nakedness, and some wear beads about their necks without crosses, and holes in their

their Ears that your finger will go through.

I could never imagine that these Savages could be so jealous of their Wives, for they hid them in their Cottages as we past by, that we might not see them, judging our inclinations I suppose by their own; we saw, some of their women who are not easily to be distinguished from their Men, but by their habit; which consists of a piece of Linen that crosses their Stomacks, and so falls down their breasts, with another which binds their Thghes behind and before like drawers: They are very wild, for when I but touch'd one of their ears, to observe three little pieces of wood she had in them, she skriekt out, and ran as if I intended to eat her.

Tho' Idolaters, yet they are very temperate and sober; and for the most part feed only on fish, fruits and Rice, and rarely eat any flesh, tho' they have plenty. Their best drink is *Tarry*, which is very refreshing, and much resembles the Cider made of pears in *Britany*, it costs them no more pains

pains than the rest of their provisions; which the unmanur'd soil freely furnishes 'em with of its own accord. It is no more than cutting the bottom of the Palm trees, and placing Vessels beneath to receive it.

CHAP. XIII.

The Squadron parts from the road of Moelly, on the news we receiv'd that there were some ships of the Enemy at Amiouam.

WE had lain at anchor about Seven or Eight days, when we understood by a *Negro*, who spoke *Portuguese*, that there lay some ships at *Amiouam*. Tho' the information was uncertain, yet it gave us a great deal of joy, and the Commandant gave notice that we should make ready to sail in two days, so we made hast to take in all necessaries, and to supply our selves with water, wood, and fresh provisions, to take down

our

our Tents, and embark the sick, of whom we lost one at land, and three the day we landed, whom we cast into the sea, which with eleven we lost in crossing the Line, made in all fifteen since we left *France*.

This evening Monsieur *Duquesne* gave orders for sailing, and accordingly next day being *Saturday* the first of *July*, we left the road of *Moelly* at 5 in the morning, but were becalm'd almost all that day, except a faint wind that blew sometimes, which serv'd us a little till six in the evening, when we came to an anchor again, for that night; next day we sail'd, and it blowing a fresh gale, about ten we doubled the Isle of *Moelly*, and by reason of the Tides we were forc'd to coast it near the Shoar.

We presently made all the sail we could, that we might reach *Amiouam* as soon as possible; which was now in sight, the *Rock* still kept close to us, and in a little time the rest came up within 3 or 4 Leagues of us: and now we took down our hammocks, and made every thing ready for a fight, tho' we had no plain sight of any ship-

D ing.

ing, till we came near the road, when we perceived one lying at anchor near to land, and the smoak of two guns which were fir'd to warn the men aboard.

'Twas now Sun-set, and we had yet two Leagues before we could come up with her; all had orders to prepare, and we as usual, were posted on the quarter Deck, we had already hung out *Dutch* colours, and put a square Flag on the top of the Main-mast, making in with full sails to set upon her by day light.

CHAP. XIV.

An Engagement at Amiouam with an English ship richly laden, which was burnt with above three hundred persons in her.

THis ship took a pleasure to see us coming in, believing us to be *Dutch*, and the rather, because Seven ships were to be sent this year from

from *Holland* to the *East-Indies*; but to rid them of their mistake, the *Rock* who had gain'd the wind of us, approacht according to orders; with a design to anchor on her Buoy; we then took in our Flag, which very much surpriz'd them, who presently hall'd the *Rock*, and askt him whence he was bound, and the Captain answering in *Dutch* from *Amsterdam*; they seem'd mightily pleas'd; then he asking them again whence their ship was, answer'd, from *London*. The Captain was just ready to go aboard him, when the sloop which he had sent to get intelligence of us, and which he had order'd to go aboard the *Admiral* if they were *Dutch*, keeping close to the land side, for fear of being taken, came to give him notice that we were *French*; this unexpected news surpriz'd him very much, and immediately gave orders to charge the guns; which the *Rock* observing, presently came and anchord on his buoy, and straight powerd in his small shot, with a broad side into her, crying, *Vive le Roy*, *Vive France*.

The *English* much surpriz'd, return'd us five guns, and going to tack about, the *Rock* at the second discharge splitting the Capstain, and wounded two and twenty of his men, upon which she cut away, and hoist sail with all the speed she could, which Monsieur *Pouriere* who was resolv'd to follow her close, no sooner observ'd but he cut his Cables too, and call'd to us to board her for that she was just sailing away.

Our Commandant knowing what he had to do, presently tackt, and got under the wind with her, who fir'd on us with both her broad sides, seeing herself oblig'd to pass between us and the *Rock*, who still kept the wind of her, and power'd his Musket shot into her, but we had no sooner suffer'd her to go a little a head of us, but we ply'd her with our great and small shot from both our ships, the *English* ship scarce firing at all, and thinking of nothing but of making her escape by the favour of the night.

But his endeavours were to no purpose, for we were resolv'd to ply him close

close all night; after the third discharge, the Commandant order'd us to cease firing, while a message was sent to him, that if he would not surrender, he should be hang'd up, on the Main-yard; this threatening message, which might have frightend another, gave him so little concern, that he answer'd it with as many great Guns as he could, at which we admir'd at the undaunted courage and resolution of the man, to stand it out at such a desperate rate, when there was no hopes of escapeng.

So we renew'd the fight, and were board and board with him, our Mainyards almost touching for a good while, 'twas now we gall'd him terribly with our great and small shot, and scarce one miss'd, when if we might judge according to appearance, he must needs have lost half his Company. Yet for all this he shew'd no sign of fear, or any thing like it; for we could not hear 'em so much as once cry for Quarter: But on the contrary, receiving our shot without firing, he lengthen'd out his Sprit-sail

that he might come close to us, believing we had a design to board him, at which time he long'd for nothing more, for if we had, he was resolv'd to blow us up, tho' at the expence of setting himself a fire, but happily the night coming on, was the cause the Commandant gave orders not to attempt it, so being contented for the present with what we had done, we stood aloof, and lay at some distance one from another, only the *Rock* would not quit her a moment, but continued still firing incessantly at her.

By this time the rest of the Squadron came up, who presently began to fire on the unhappy *Englishman*, and surrounded him of all sides, that the ship scarce knew which way to turn her head; the bullets fell like hail into her, and the night was now so dark that one could scarce discern any thing, which was the cause that our ships incommoded one another, notwithstanding our lanthors were all fill'd with lights.

The enemy having for some time receiv'd a great many shot from us, without

without making any return, and thought of nothing but meeting with a convenient opportunity to make their escape. When Monsieur *Duquesne* observing 'twas in vain to waste powder and shot, and that 'twas to no purpose to think of reducing him before day, sent an arm'd sloop with an Officer, commanding all the ships not to fire any more, but only keep a strict watch on her all night.

It might be now about eleven a clock, the action having lasted without intermission since eight, when the Commandant order'd us to repose ourselves for a while; and the sloop going to the *Rock* with these orders; Monsieur *de Pouriere*, the Captain of it, sent us a young *Malouin* Seaman, who made his escape from aboard the enemy by swimming, and had come aboard him, after his second discharge,

This man inform'd us, that the *English* Captain, after giving all his men a large bowl of Canary, exhorted them to fight it out to the last; telling them at the same time too, that he was resolv'd to set fire to the ship before ever it should fall into our hands,

if we prov'd to be *French*; which he but too well perform'd, as you'll see by what follows. The ships name was the *Herbert*, built for eighty Guns; carrying but 54; and two hundred and fifty men, with about fourscore passengers, amongst whom was a rich *English* Bankrupt, who had fourscore thousand crowns in silver, having with him his wife and a daughter, a great beauty about twenty years old, with two young sons, one of which was born under the Line.

He told us the Cargo of the ship consisted of Laces, and Brocard of gold, scarlet cloaths, Bevers, Iron, Tobacco, Canary wines, and a great deal of Money; ordered for commerce, and paying off the *English* soldiers in the service of the Company, who had receiv'd no pay in four years time, and that if taken would prove a vast rich Prize, which very much rejoyc'd us. But the desperate Captain took care that none should be the richer for't, or gain by what he lost.

So we gave over firing in good time, for besides that it signify'd nothing; we should a done our selves as much damage

damage as the enemy; at length he made four or five shot at us, to waken our Squadron out of that profound sleep it seem'd to have been in, and then lay still; and continuing so for some time, about two in the morning the wind blowing fresh, she made all the sail she could to escape the approaching danger.

He thought the same happiness would have attended him now; which he had had at the Canary Islands, where its said he clear'd himself of three stout *Algerines* that surrounded him; but he soon found to the contrary, for he was no sooner under sail, but we began to follow him, when seeing there was no possibility of escaping, and that as soon as 'twas day, we should bear down upon him in a line, and sink him; Fir'd with rage and despair, he took the most cruel resolution in the world; and without any more delay set fire to his ship, placing two chests of powder under the highest part of the stern, near the Mizzen Mast; making his escape himself thro' the Gunners room in his boat, in which they perceiv'd a light, but he endeavour'd

your'd to hide it that they might not follow him.

This dreadful spectacle amaz'd us exceedingly, and as eagerly as we endeavour'd to attack her before, as hastily we attempted to avoid her now; our men lookt on't as belonging to themselves; and could not but censure the Captain, for acting so cruel and inhumane a part, as not to save his Cargo, or perish with them himself. But this horrible proceeding quite ruin'd the opinion, we had before conceiv'd of his bravery.

Some of our men heard these miserable people crying out like the damn'd, and runing up the bolt sprit in crowds, endeavouring to avoid the flames, which rag'd so violently, but 'twas in vain. The ship continually burning for three hours, when at length the flames catching in the powder room, it blew up all at once; so that in less than half a quarter of an hour there was nothing to be seen of that rich ship, but dreadful conflagration.

Our single ship fir'd for her share no less than 200 and 80 guns, and we had five men kill'd and six wounded;

I could not receive an exact account of what the rest suffer'd, but I am certain we suffer'd most; after having repair'd what damage we sustain'd, we steer'd our course North North East, and left *Amiouam* behind us, Monsieur *de Pourier* being unable to regain the Point was constrain'd to cut his cables.

CHAP. XV.

We past the Line a second time in the 7th. Degree of Long. without feeling any extraordinary heat, one of our Seamen unhappily drown'd.

WE were to pass the Line again before we could arrive at *Pontichery*, tho' in doing of it, we felt no extraordinary heat, nor the other usual inconveniences, nor were so much as becalm'd; of the contrary, the wind encreasing still more and more since our departure, on *Monday* the tenth of *July* we repast it at eleven in the morning, in the 70th. Deg. of Longit. without so much as perceiving

ceiving when we were under it, by reason of the Southern winds which blew so fresh, that the heat was less then that we often feel at *Paris* in summer. Never was Voyage happier; sailing no less than three or four Leagues an hour, and the winds as good and constant as we could desire.

Sailing so successfully, we could not miss arriving quickly in the height of the *Maldives*, which we left of the right, without so much as seeing them; tho' we had sent the *Lyon* on the 20th. to discover them they are seldom past unseen, but our Pilots according to their Card, and their calculation, told us they must be there, so we reckon'd we should soon be at the Isle of *Ceylon*, whither we were order'd to go, to see if there were any of the Enemy's ships there, for besides that the *Dutch*, had several Collonies there, the *English* came thither every year for *Nutmegs*, *Cinnamon*, and *Cloves*, with which this Island greatly abounds.

The same day one of our Seamen was drown'd about six at night, when the rest of our men were at supper; all things seem'd to conspire to his loss

loss, a slack wind in our stern, made the ship rowl very much, and instead of eating with his Comarades according to custom, he went on the Deck to kill a Kidd, were treading on the blood of the Kidd, he slipt, and fell into the sea, to which the rowling of the ship very much contributed; he was a pretty vvay off us before vve perceiv'd it, and so could give him no help by casting out ropes, the Mariners did all that they could, and Monsieur *Duquesne* order'd them to take down the sails, and hoise the boat out, but 'twas too late; and we saw him perish, without our being able to give him the least assistance.

Next day, being the 22^d. there happen'd a pleasant, but an unlucky, mistake, presently after noon, the Seamen cry'd *Land* before us; and we immediately believ'd that 'twas the Coast of *Coremandal*, or the Isle of *Ceylon*, we made the ordinary signal, and presently after discover'd eight Islands, near one another, which joyn'd to the view we had of land to the South, made Monsieur *Duquesne* say, that 'twas certainly the *Maldives*; the Pilots could not be of his
opinion

opinion, and the reputation of their skill and judgment was concern'd, to differ from him: In the meantime after perusing the Cards and their Journals, they own'd their mistake, and agreed that the biggest sight of land, was the point of the *Maldives*; which is the most Northerly Island of all the rest which we found too true; and we attributed the cause of this mistake, to the strong Currents which they found had thrown us too much to the west, we presently tack't about, and lay by all night, for fear of being run aground by the tides.

CHAP. XVI.

View of the Isle of Ceylon, famous for its Beauty, Riches, and the mountain of the Peke of Adam; a Dutch Pink with eight chests of Silver made Prize.

FROM break of day 'till Friday the 28th. we made all the sail we could; when *Loyseau*, who kept the head

head of the Squadron, made a signal of his discovering land, and after we had descry'd it our selves too on the edge of the Horrison, we hoisted our flag to give notice to the rest: 'Twas not long before we plainly perceiv'd the Isle of *Ceylon*, at which we very much rejoyc'd, having all along expected to meet some of the Enemys ships there. I think I never saw a more pleasant Country, being very even and of a vast extent, and one of the most rich and fertill in the world; you see here a great number of tall Trees ever green; some forming lovely Arbours, others beautiful alleys, in the vast plaines which stretcht themselves towards the sea side, besides a rich smell of Nutmegs and Cinnamon, charming and delicious beyond Expression.

Of the three Mountains in this Island, there is one remarkable for its heigth and name, being the Peke of *Adam*, and by some believ'd that *Adam* and *Eve* were bury'd here, which is as great a certainty as that other opinion, they have here; that God in this Island establisht the terrestrial

strical Paradiſe, which I leave to the more knowing to judge of.

This Iſle is plac'd between 6 and 10 Deg. of North Lat. and 103 Deg. of Long. its form is round, and may be about 250 Leagues in compaſs, or better. The *Dutch* who are Maſters of it, draw an immense revenue thence, for the Nutmegs, and Cinamon, as well as the Pearl, which is fiſht up here.

Coaſting the Iſland we diſcover'd two ſail a head of us, who ſcem'd to keep at a diſtance from the Iſland, but preſently made to land when they ſaw us. Our Commandant impatient to know whence they were, thought to ſnap them by hoifting up *Engliſh* colours, and making all the ſail he could; the *Dragon* as the ſwifteſt ſailer went to cut off their way, and when we were vvithin ſhot of them, we fir'd a gun, as did the *Dragon* too, and the ball ſo ſcar'd 'em that inſtead of coming aboard as vv'e hop'd; they preſently fled for refuge to a houſe by the ſea ſide; a ſevv hours after, the *Salinael* vvith vv'e on the top, cry'd out; I can't eaſily deſcribe the diſ-
ferent

ferent motions of joy it caus'd amongst us; some vvent up to the round-top, others to the fane, others vvho could not so easily do it, stood in the shrouds, and the rest made use of their Perspectives to discover a vessel, which could not yet be seen but by her top, yet after an hours sailing, she was plainly discern'd, to be three Leagues off.

The Sun was already set, and we fear'd but one thing; which was, that she would sail off in the night and so escape us, by taking a contrary course, so that we scarce knew what to do, tho' we were sure she lay at anchor, our Commandant considerd of it, being loath to do, as he had done before at *Amiouam*, where he shot a matter of eight hunderd shot at random in the night, when fifty would serve by day light, so he resolv'd to ly by her all night, without attempting any thing; by which means we shou'd confirm her the more in her mistake of us.

So we anchord in 25 fathom water at seven a-clock, and next morning being the 25th. weigh'd anchor again

at 5 in the morning, the wind blowing fresh quickly brought us to the sight of her, for which we were so much concern'd all night, lest she should make her escape. We first heard Mass, after that we breakfasted, and then Monsieur *Duquesne* orderd to hoise up *English* colours; the Enemy mistaking their friends, answer'd us by hanging out *Dutch* colours, whithour stirring from where they lay, giving us all the time and opportunity we could wish for, to attack them, and now indeed it was in vain to attempt an escape, if they had known we were *French*.

This Vessel lay at Anchor in the road of *Mevelle*, under the shelter of a high ground, which hinder'd her having a sight of us the night before. The *Rock* whom we follow'd enter'd into the same road, and anchor'd by her side, which she had scarce done, but the *Dutch* understanding what we were, endeavour'd to get ashore in their sloop with their richest things; at the same time Monsieur *de Pouriere* man'd out his sloop, after our Commandant had return'd back again, unwilling that any should share the first advantage

advantage with him, which was very Considerable, else the enemy had not had time to go ashoar, and save what they did; and we had certainly taken 2 Women who cary'd off eight hundred Caupants of gold, to the vallue of above 10000 crowns in Pearls and Jewvells.

While these fled ashoar, we made a deratchment of six Gard Marins and several Musketeers to arm the sloop, and the boat, in which Monsieur *Dauberville*, our Lieutenant, was commanded to board the *Dutch* man; I was chosen with one of my comrades to accompany him, and the other four going in the boat, we went directly to the *Pink* while the men aboard her Smoaking their pipes veiwd us with little or no Concern, but seven or eight, more affrighted than the rest, cry'd out to the *Negros*, who were not far off; to fetch them a shoar in their Perogues, vvhich they did; notwithstanding all our threats; the *Dutch* lept into it confusedly, but our men in the boat Coming up with them at the first fire so fear'd them, that

E 2

they

they chose to Row back again to their ship, and there abide the utmost.

We were within pistol shot of the ship, when we saw one of the Seamen busy at one of the Guns, upon which we in a manner gave our selves for lost, and Monsieur *Duquesne* had the same opinion of us; and had they been men of any resolution, nothing had been easier than to have destroy'd us, by levelling one gun at the boat, and another at the sloop.

'Twas now some time since our Squadron had hung out *French* colours, and the enemy thinking all resistance vain; took down theirs, when we presently boarded them, without the least resistance, crying, *Vive le Roy*.

One would scarce believe with what earnestness and violence the Seamen pillage, when they enter a ship, breaking open trunks and boxes, and rifling every thing, nay, they were so violent in plundering these *Dutchmen*, that some of them fell on the Captain, who was smoaking quietly with his Lieutenant, tearing the gold buttons out of the neck and sleeves of his shirt, and

taking

taking six Caupants of gold from him, which is a sort of long money of *Japan*, of the value of ten crowns a piece,

Monsieur *D' Auberville* having embarked all the Spoil he received from the Seamen that boarded her, sent back the Boat to our Commandant; who landed some men in it, soon enough to recover eight of those Eleven Chests of Silver, which the Enemy had carried off in their sloop. Our men soon discover'd them, by a track of *Rix Dollars* that were scatter'd on the Sand, which lead them directly to the place where the *Dutchmen* had hid them; but our pursuit being vigorous, they they had not time enough to convey them to a Counter about 2 Leagues distant.

Some of the Seamen got no less than 3 or 400 Crowns in the plunder, for their share, and afterwards their thoughts run on nothing else but more prize and pillage. This was a new *Pink*, of about 70 Tun, and came from *Batavia* ballasted with Rice, to load Nutmegs and Cinnamon at *Ceylon*. We fetcht her out of the road of *Me-*

velle, and brought her to an anchor hard by our Squadron; the prisoners we deserv'd amongst us, Monsieur *Duquesne* took six of the chief of them, with the Captain and Lieutenant, whom he treated at his own Table, and omitted no part of Civillity, that might lessen the sense of their present loss and imprisonment.

CHAP. XVII.

Another small Dutch Vessel taken.

HAVING chosen a Pilot, and some Seamen to conduct the Prize, we sail'd the last of *July* in the evening, and came to an anchor nearer Land, but sail'd again early next morning, still on the watch for more Prize. We were very much delay'd here by a calm that lasted four days, and the slow sailing of the Prize, which could not keep us company; we took in some of our sails to stay for her, this made the Commandant resolve to send
the

the *Lyon* with her to *Pontecherry*, where the Squadron was to call, while we cruiz'd about the Island.

Being thus separated on the 6th. of *August*, we perceiv'd a ship a head of us, when we presently made all the sail we could to come up with her before she could gain the land, which she endeavour'd with all the speed she could; at a distance we believ'd her as big as the *Rock*, but after giving her chase for 2 hours, we found she was a small Vessel of thirty five Tuns; carrying *Dutch* colours, we fir'd one gun at her without ball, to make her strike, which she presently did, and lay by till we came up, seeing us hang out *English* Colours, but the Captain of this little Vessel was not a little surpriz'd, when he saw us take in the *English* Colours and hang out *French*, and took down his own; when we presently commanded him aboard; who answering he had ne'er a boat, we sent our sloop, who brought him, and 20 more *Dutch* prisoners aboard, whom we distributed amongst the several ships.

This poor man lookt upon himself as lost, with his whole Family, and the first favour he desired of the Commandant was, to take pitty on his wife and six Children which he had, which was promis'd him; when Monsieur *Duquesne* gave orders to bring his Chest aboard, which when 'twas searcht, there was found neither money nor merchandize of value in it; any more than in the Vessel, so he had leave given him to return with his wife, who was a *Negress*; but the command of his ship was given to another, and a Pilot and other Seamen put aboard.

CHAP. XVIII.

Six Dutch ships under the Fort of Negapatam, avoid being attackt by the advantage of a Sand bank,

AFTER we had cruised for some time upon the Isle of Ceylon, we left it, and made towards the main Land; the

the 9th. of *August* we anchor'd within five leagues of the *Negapatan*, which is a Town on the coast of *Coramandel*, where the *Dutch* have a Fort, and a considerable Factory. Next day, having weigh'd anchor early in the morning, we arriv'd there betimes, and every one being greedy of Action, we were overjoy'd to see six ships there, that seem'd to us of a considerable burthen.

The Fort discovering us, set up *Dutch* colours, and three of these ships, of which the greatest, as Admiral, hung them out on the Main mast top; we answer'd them presently with *English* colours, which did not puzzle them a little to discover what we were; in the mean time we made in with full sail, ready and forward to engage.

But just as we thought to seize our prey two accidents happen'd that baukt us extreamly; the wind blowing from the land, and a Sand bank which yve discover'd, hinderd us from coming within shot of them; we past on still sounding, and were once in four fathom

thom and an half, the ships mudding the water as they past.

These delays and these turnings, gave them time to discover what we were ; so that the Admiral who anchor'd at large, suspecting our tacking about so long, made close into the land, intending to run herself aground, if pursued, others follow'd her example, and two rang'd themselves under the Cannon of the Fort.

Monsieur *Duquesne* meeting with such difficulties, would undertake nothing of his own head ; but call'd a Councel of War, in which it was resolv'd to run no riske, for besides that there was nothing to be done, we were in great danger of running a ground on the Bank, so we tackt, and stood to sea.

An hour after we discover'd three more, which we reckon'd would make us amends for our former loss, but as soon as we came nigher, we discover'd them to be *Danes* by their colours, and so had nothing to say to them ; They lay at anchor before *Tringubart*, five Leagues from *Negapan*, where they have a Fort and Factory.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIX.

The Indian Princes take the Factories in their Dominions into their protection, and defend them from the Insults of a stronger Enemy.

WE anchor'd two Leagues farther over, against a Factory that belongs to us, where there are only two *French* who have but four or five port-holes, with as many guns to defend them, which rather make a shew than a real strength; when they discover'd our Squadron they hung out a white flag, notwithstanding, that they had reason to believe us *Dutch or English*.

But in the *Indies*, each Factory sets out their own *National Colours* be it in time of War or Peace, be they ne're so weak, or the approaching enemy ne're so strong: For if the *English*, for example, insult a *French* Factory, the Great Mogul, or another Prince, in whose Country

Country the Factory is,resents it as done to himself, and obliges himself to make amends for any damage receiv'd.

A little after we hung out white colours, which very much surpriz'd our *French*, who did not know what to make of such a novelty, but when we added the Admiral flame on the main mast top, and considering the building of our ships when they came to an anchor, they no longer doubted, as they told us afterwards, but that it was Monsieur *Duquesne's* Squadron, which they had every day expected, upon which they presently came to Complement him; our Sloop which was sent to them, met them half way, and brought them aboard, where we long'd for their Company; as well to learn News of them, as to meet with our Country-men, in so distant a part of the world, with whom we might happily entertain ourselves, and be inform'd of what was necessary, we did them some honor, for going to the Council Chamber, where Monsieur *Duquesne* expected them, they past through two double Lanes

Lanes, lin'd with Soldiers and Seamen, who prest hard to see them, that they could scarce go along, they told us little news, and next day we parted for *Pontechnerry*, where we with reason expected to hear more, and with more certainty.

CHAP. XX.

The French Squadron arrives before Ponticheri, the chief Factory of our East-India Company; situated on the Coast of Coromandel.

THe Coast of *Coromandel* is very beautiful all along; the pleasant mixture of Meadows and Trees ever green, making a Charming prospect, you meet with mountains here and there, which intercept it, but are themselves a prospect no less pleasant; and some rising grounds, which you overlook and loose your sight in delicious, fair, and wide extended plains;

plains; besides a number of beautiful habitations by the sea side, where you meet with another entertainment, which to me seem'd very diverting, which is a great number of *Catimarons*, in which the *Negros* of the Country go a fishing, they are made of two or three pieces of a Tree, bound together with *Coco*-cords, with a Mat sail of a Triangular form, as they sit in them their breech touches the water, and yet they are not afraid to launch out ten or twelve Leagues in them; the sea is some times cover'd with these *Catimarons*, which sail so swiftly, tho' with nere so small a wind, that at a distance you would take them for birds skimming up and down on the surface of the waters.

We pass'd by a *Dutch* factory, before which there lay only one bark, that was not worth the taking coasting a long, we at length arriv'd at *Porta-Nova* at eleven in the morning, near which we saw four *Pagods* hard by one another, in which the *Negros* worship the Devil, we saw there three ships, of which the biggest carry'd a flag on the top of the Main-mast; these were
worth

worth the attacking, but whither they were willing to spare us the paines, or rather prevent their own danger, they hung out *Danish* colours, And nothing could impose upon us more, tho' we can't Vindicate our weakness in this matter, considering they lay at anchor before a *Dutch* factory, and knowing too, that the *Danes* had but three ships in the *East-Indies*; which we had just left at *Frinquebart*; after having made a faint to discover them, we left them to continue our course.

We had so little wind, that vve scarce expected to arrive the same day at *Ponticherri*, and being afterwards down-right becalm'd, we were oblig'd to anchor 2 Leagues short of the *Courtoir*, which is a Fort belonging to *Prince Gingi*, a friend to the *French* Nation, being now within 2 Leagues, we took our own time, and next day being *Saturday*, the 12 of *August*, the wind blowing a little fresh, we sail'd, and at eight in the morning arriv'd at *Pontecherri*, where we found the *Lyon* and the *Dutch Pink*, who came thither but the day before.

We

We had scarce anchor'd within half a league of the land, when the greatest part of the Officers of the Fort came to wait upon the Commandant; the Fort saluted us with eleven guns, and we could return but nine, because the Deck was so incumber'd. Next day Monsieur *Martin*, Director general for the *French East-India Company* came aboard, where he was receiv'd with a salute of five guns, and nobly regal'd by Monsieur *Duquesne*, who deliver'd him his Majesty's Letter, by which he enabled him; and a few days after perform'd the Ceremony of girding him with a Sword by his side.

Our arrival here spread a great and general joy, which appear'd even amongst the *Negro's* of the Country; who in their way exprest their satisfaction, and no doubt our own *French* had reason to rejoice, to see us come with a force sufficient to make the *Indies* tremble; and their joy was equal to the consternation of the enemy, who secretly dispatcht notice to all the Factories on the Coast, to be on their guard, against six *French Privateers*, the stoutest, and the best, that had

had yet been sent from *Europe* into those parts.—

This allarum which the *English* and *Dutch* gave one another, did not a little encrease the glory and reputation of *France*; they were no more to be seen strutting in these parts, and hectoring the Fort of *Pontichery*, threatening to burn the Director in't, as they had done but two months before our arrival, with I don't know what other Rodomontado's; of the contrary, let their strength be what they please to bluster it in these parts, they did not care for seeing us, or having any thing to do with us.

We began with debarking the eight chests of Silver we took out of the *Dutch* prize, and four Musketeers conveyed the Captain and Lieutenant to the Fort till farther orders; our Commandant went a shoar at the same time, and was receiv'd with a salute of five guns. Monsieur *Martin* entertain'd him so nobly, with the other Officers of the Squadron, that feasting and hunting was all our employment, while we lay at anchor here.

CHAP. XXI.

The Negros before we debarkt bring plenty of fresh provisions aboard. Money of Ponticheri.

THE *Negros* constantly came aboard us with fresh provisions; as *Piggs, Hares, Henns, Bananes, Lemons, Oranges, Chibbols, Reddishes, Giraumont,* and several other sorts of pulse; which were not so cheap as we expected, for the *Negros* at the first sight of our six ships, knowing we should have need of all, presently rais'd their prizes, to that degree, that whereas before one might have bought thirty *Henns* for a crown, they now cost a *Fanon* a piece, which is six sols *French*.

The *Fanon* is a little piece of mixt gold, of the shape and size of a half pea, and no bigger; there is another of pure gold, call'd a pagod, of the value of a half a pistol, shapt like the *Fanon*,

only

only bigger, and the figure of an Idol im-
prest on one side; they have besides sil-
ver Roupys of the value of half a crown;
and for their small mony of Caches and
Doudous of copper, there goes fourteen
of these last to a Fanon, and two Caches
to a Doudou.

The *Negros* found they were such
gainers by us, that from morning 'till
night you might see them fishing up
and down in their Catimarons; and in-
deed they furnisht us with the finest
fish that ever I tasted, which they
caught in such abundance, and with
so much speed, that for three pence
half penny we could buy as much as
would satisfy eight persons.

Our Men fed on Mutton, Pigs, and
a power of herbs, which they through
into the pot; which with other pro-
visions made very good fare, but the
Rice, of which all our bread was made
since we took the *Dutch Pink*, was
not so agreeable; especially to us who
were so little us'd to it, besides the un-
toward way of making it, for after
washing it in salt water, they bakt it
with a little salt, and we were often

F a fore's

forc't to eat it mere dough and full of
chaffe. *far and
can be*

CHAP. XXII.

*The Author's Reflections on the Sallys
of his Youth, and the fatigues of
his Voyage.* *The N
see
in t*

Voyages of this kind, teach youth
a great deal of experience; and
by the miseries they meet with, con-
vince them of the folly of their ex-
travagancies. I am sure this Voyage
instructed me largely in the knowledge
of my own, for which I need not now
be beholding to the examples of others.
I suffer'd all that's extream in hun-
ger and thirst, and those Coroding
miseries, gall'd me into more wil-
dom, and fretted me into a sense,
of my, and a better vallue for my
Father's house, and a soberer course of
life, which I so much slighted before;
this I got, whatever I lost; but I went
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back.
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far and paid dear for't; if any price
can be too dear for wisdom.

CHAP. XXIII.

*The Negros flock to the Sea side to
see us land, others come to help us
in their boats.*

I Was one of the first that landed,
tho' it be very difficult at *Ponti-
cheri*, by reason the sea all along the
coast rolls in mighty surges on the
shoar, so that without a great deal of
care, boats are apt to be lost in landing
and therefore anchor at some distance,
and wait the *Negros* coming to take
them a shoar in the *Chelingues*, which
are flat bottom boats, the planks sow'd
together with *Coco* cordes, being light
and very high of the sides, they hu-
mour the rolling of the surges, which
has no sooner cast them on the shoar,
but the *Negros* leap out, striving
who shall carry you out, first on his
back.

I saw a great number of them at landing, of all sorts; some half naked, others thinly clad in muslin shirts, and turbants on their heads, and several with their bodies painted of divers colours; they saluted us in raising the right hand to the top of the head, which is the most respectful way of saluting amongst them; you see the Caze's rais'd of each side, and a Magazine of the Companies, and behind it there's a stable, in which there were eight *Persians* horses, which the Officers rid when they went a hunting, and two *Suret* Oxen, which drew Monsieur *Martin's* Coach.

The *Suret* oxen are a rarity worth the seeing, being no less than ten or eleven foot high, and proportionably thick; they draw a cord of two inches thick through their nostrils for a bridle, tho' they appear very dull and heavy, yet they'll trot continually in the deep sand, and the roughest ways.

A few steps farther, as you go towards the Fort, is a sort of a street which leads to the *Bazar*, the place where the Market is kept; encom-
past

past round with a parcell of paultry shops, where the *Negros* sell tobacco, pipes, sugar, colours, onions and others things of that kind.

CHAP. XXIV.

A short Description of Pontichery, and the Garrison; of the Negros and Negresses.

P*ontichery*, commonly cald *Pontichery*, is situated on the coast of *Coromandel*, depending on Prince *G'ingi*, in 12 Deg. Nor. Lat. and a 114 Deg. of Long; the *French* have within these two years built a Fort of four Towers, mounted with twenty four guns; neither the walls nor situation seem'd strong to me, but the garrison, compos'd of a 150 *French* soldiers, are able to defend it against any attack.

Monsieur *Martin* and the chief Officers are lodg'd in't, with the *Capacins*, who serve the Chappel which is built

there. A great many of the Soldiers are settled there, and married to *Portuguese* Women, so that they scarce ever desire to return to *France* again; they have built themselves houses, in which they live very happily; and tho' that bread and wine is a little scarce, they have every thing else in great plenty.

They drink Punch, Rack, and Lemonade, to which they accustom themselves very much; and if they trade ne'er so little, and are good husbands, they may lay up mony; so that 'tis not to be wonderd, that most of them having come hither for ill things done in *France*, they are not fond of returning thither, from this very hot and distant Country.

All the Inhabitants are black, and of a comely Stature, having long hair and beards; their cloathing is nothing but a white Cavage, with a turbant on their heads of the same colour, with gold pendants set, with pearls in their ears, the chief Merchants cover part of their bodies with a red or yellow scarfe, which they throw over their shoulders, and wear

wear Baboaches, which are a sort of shoes, never going barefoot like the rest, and are follow'd by several Servants, who carry their *Parosals* or *Umbrellas*.

The Women are generally little, and inclin'd to love; they are girded with a callico scarf, one end of which crossing their shoulders, covers their breasts: they gather their hair about their heads, and knot it about their Ears, which are loaded with gold Rings.

They are as fond too of adorning their arms and legs with braceletts; and wear gold rings on their toes as well as their fingers, and add to these, odd bizzarre ornaments, another of making hols in their Nostrils, where they hang a ring of gold or any other mettle which is their greatest pride.

CHAP. XXV.

*An ample Description of the different
sects, manners and religions of the
Inhabitants of Pontichery.*

I Have yet spoke only of the best sort in general, of whom there are several different in this Town; as the *Moors*, the *Faquiras*, the *Brames*, the heathen *Malebars* and Christian *Malebars*, the *Talingars*, the *Marchois*, and *Barias*.

They are as so many several Tribes, who never inter-marry, and whose Manners and Religions differ from the *Marquoise* and the *Parias*'s the meanest and the basest, of them all; their Habitations are seperated from the rest; they go barefoot, wearing only a bit of linnen just to cover their nakedness, the *Marquoise* follow fishing for the most part, and wear rush bonnets like miters, they make use of *Chelingues*, and *Catimarons*, and eat any thing that's offered

fer'd them. The *Parias* are shoemakers, and the most infamous of all, the nastiest in their way of living, and eat the bodies of dead creatures tho' they died of sickness, not sparing the rotten stinking guts, and are very vile and miserable, but the *Brames* and the *Faquers* are those who are most esteem'd.

The *Brames* are the Gentlemen, and only they are permitted to wear silk strings in bandaliers, and three lines on their faces, two white, and one red in the middle; their heads are shav'd, except a tuft which they leave on the top, they wear Muslin turbants, and commonly shirts of the same, with a delicate Callico, to touch which is a crime that deserves punishment amongst them.

So that a *French* man one day ignorantly touching one that belong'd to a *Brame*, who was bathing himself, they came to the Fort in crowds to complain of him to Monsieur *Martin*, and to demand him in order to have justice done on him, they pretended he was burnt, so they were obliged to hide him, and after often remonstrating

ing to them, that what he had done, was out of ignorance not disrespect, they were at last appeas'd; they eat nothing that has life, neither flesh nor fish, nor so much as eggs, living on rice, Milk, Roots, and the like. They won't be so much as seen eating, and are so jealous of their honor, that they think it a great disgrace to enter into the house of a mean person.

These *Brames*, as all the rest, have a great Veneration for cows, and will not on any account suffer them to be kild; being so useful to mankind by their work and labour; and when our men kill any, they are forc't to do it in private, for fear of provoking these *Idolaters*, who on the tenth of *Jan.* the first day of their year, celebrate a feast in honor of them.

On these days after feasting themselves they lead all the cows and oxen into a lake, where they wash them by the sound of drums and the trumpets, and paint their foreheads and horns; after which they lead them to a publick place, and each holding a nose-gay in his hand, they dance round casting water on them, and often prostrating

prostrating themselves on the Ground the *Brames* direct these ceremonies; and glory in being the most zealous observers of these sort of superstitions. And are the instructors of others.

The name of their Idol is *Ram*, and when they salute any one with respect, they call him by that name. For they not only worship this suppos'd Divinity, but the rest of the Statues, which they believe serve him; they carry them about on solemn days; some have eight and some four heads on a body, sitting on a bird, that holds a serpent in his Beek.

Others squatting on their tails like Monkeys, have the head of an *Elephant*, and belly of a woman; they pray to them often, and are careful of washing their heads with *Coco* water, and rubbing the rest of their bodies with oyl.

If you inquire into the reason of their senseless Superstitions and ridiculous follies they readily answer, that they received them from their Ancestors, in whose Example they Glory in, without the least desire of being better inform'd.

The

The *Faquirs* of *Ponticheri*, as at other places, are persons of no certain body, who wander up and down doing pennance, and that little cloathing they weare is so wretchedly poor, they vow chastity, and voluntary poverty, and when Alms is denied them, they wound themselves, to move compassion.

As for the first Vow of Chastity, they have little pretence to it, and the very opinion the people have of their sanctity, is the occasion of the most loathsome obscenities in the Female Sex.

However these *Faquirs* impose penances on themselves, which they inviolably observe as long as they live, viz. as to have both their arms always rais'd above their heads, one foot constantly lifted up, and a great many other painful postures, which they continue in to their deaths. I saw one with his head in an Iron cage, which he carri'd night and day on his shoulders, eating through the barrs; these wretches, as well as others, paint their bodies and faces of a great many different colours, which makes them look dismally,

Tho'

Tho' their superstitious Rites are for the most part the same, yet they worship a great many several false Gods, as Trees, Rivers, the Sun and Moon, &c. In an Eclipse they meet by the sea side, crying out hideously to the noise of some instruments of brass, bathing themselves, and believing that as they wash themselves, they clear and brighten the eclips'd planet. They burn the bodies of the dead, and before the *French* settled at *Ponticheri*, these men's wives in proof of their conjugal love and fidelity, burnt themselves alive with the corps of their deceas'd husbands; but we afterwards chang'd this custom amongst them, and indeed 'twas no very difficult matter to perswade them to it, being ready enough to embrace an opportunity of being releas'd.

When any one dies, they carry the Corps on a Beer, cover'd with Callico, and strow'd round with *Bannany* Leaves, to the Place where it is to be burnt; attended with a Mournful sound of Trumpets, their Relations meeting them by the way crying out, aloud *A pa*, which is as much as to say, *Father*

ther; Jumping and beating their breasts with so much Violence, that they often faint away in the Ceremony, while the rest of his kindred stay behind to comfort his Children, &c.

When they are near the funeral pile, they set down the *Beer*, to change the situation of the body; placing the head where the feet were; after which, one of the company, who never ceast crying all the way, having washt his hands, lays three small quantities of Rice on the Funeral pile; and taking four little pieces of wood, and putting one on each hand, a third at his feet, and a fourth at his head: He afterwards makes three holes in a pot full of water, and sprinkles round the corps three times. When they presently take it up, and carry it to the place where it is design'd to be burnt.

Then they lay it on the Funeral pile, the face to the wood, and the legs crost under the belly, and after covering it with straw and cows dung, which they spread over it very neatly, they set fire to it; blowing the Trumpet till the Corps is quite consum'd;

and

and the pots in which the water and Rice was carried, they beat to powder with sticks.

But if the Corps is to be interr'd, the grave is made with steps to go down, and a rising at the bottom, on which it is seated cross leg'd; the relations strew flowers and ashes on't, and then cover it with earth.

The *Mallebar* Christians have built a fine vaulted Church, in which the *Missionaries* of *Ponticheri* commonly officiate, and where the *Jesuits* say Mass; I have seen the *Negros* so devout, that it very much edify'd me to see their Zeal to be so solemn and pure.

Flesh is very little us'd amongst these people, particularly here; where they live wholly on rice and fish; they won't eat or drink after an *European*; much less tast of what he has drest: These *Malabars* may marry at the age of four or five, but then they are separated again till eleven or twelve; when they are permitted to dwell together.

While I was a shoar the marriage of a rich merchant, who serv'd the
G Company

Company, was sollemni'zd, and after this manner; two *Bamboufs* were plac'd at each corner of the Fort, encompass'd of the out side with fireworks; in the evening he came fourth, according to custom with his wife, in a rich *Palanquin*, carried by twelve *Negros*, preceded by two hundred Flamboys rank'd in very good order; their nearest Relations accompany'd them a horseback, and of all sides was continually heard the confus'd noise of Fifes, drums and Kettle-drums; ten or twelve dancers richly drest follow'd them, dancing from space to space to the sound of little bells; and when the married persons past before the *Bamboufs* that were prepar'd, the fire works were lighted, which were so intermix'd with *Petars* and Musquets, that they made them entertaining enough.

This Solemnity having lasted a good part of the night, they regaild themselves with *Bethel*, *Chocolet*, *Bannanes*, and made themselves drunk with *Rack*, which is stronger then *Aquavita*, and very much in use amongst the *Indi-*

ans, as is *Bethel*, a leaf very like the *Ivy*, which they eat, after spreading a little Lime on't, made red with ginger, lapt up in a piece of *Raique* resembling *Musk*; this is of an excellent tast and smell, and serves to redden the lips, and sweeten the breath.

The women, for the most part, all along the coast are hard favour'd, and go barefoot and bareheaded like the men, from whom 'tis difficult to distinguish them; only for a piece of cotton cloath which covers them from the navel to the knee; they wear their hair lank, very much oyl'd and greas'd, with holes in their ears, that an egg would almost pass throw; and black lank breasts, with nipples almost as big as an Apple; they carry their children on their hips, their legs dangling on each side. I have seen of them that were not above four months old creeping on the sand on all four, and muddling like Ducks in the water.

They smoak perpetually, and without scruple indulge themselves in the vilest lusts, and so readily prostitute their Bodies on all occasions, that

their lusts exceed all other qualifications.

CHAP. XXVI.

The French Squadron sails, to fight fourteen Dutch and English ships that lay under the fort of Madras.

IN the mean time our Ships took in fresh water, and debark't what was to be left at *Ponticheri*; and amongst the rest four Brass Guns, of 18 pounders, to strengthen the Fort, the biggest of those it had before, being but Twelve; and while we were refreshing our selves after our long fatigues, the Commandant understood by a Letter of Monsieur *Martin's*, that there were fourteen *Dutch* and *English* ships at *Madras*, who expected us there, with a Resolution of fighting us.

He accordingly took the best measures he cou'd, and prepared to fight them: Omitting nothing that might prove

prove advantageous for the attack : And thereupon he presently ordered us to turn that little vessel we had taken off of the Isle of *Ceylon* into a Fire ship, and to unrig the *Dutch* Pink, which after Monsieur *Poureire* had taken her top mast, and plac'd it in the room of his own which was split in the Action at *Amjouam*, we left her naked at *Ponticheri*; from whence we departed the 24th. of *August* at two in the afternoon, carrying the Captain and Lieutenant along with us prisoners.

In about an hours space, we saw *Conjumelle*, a place situated by the sea side, the sweetest on all the coast; the *Dutch* having a Factory, hung out a flag there.

The wind blowing fresh in the evening, we took in some sail for fear of coming to *Madras* in the night; the passage from *Ponticheri* thither, not being above 20 Leagues: so sailing gently the rest of the night, we discover'd a ship a head of us, which hoist sail as soon as ever she saw us; we took it for granted she was a stout ship, sent out by the Enemy to observe us.

So we presently brought down our hammocks, having put all the chests in the hole, since our departure; so that in less than half an hour we were fitted for the fight, which we the more eagerly desir'd, because it was *St. Lewis's* day.

And now we perceived the ships, which seem'd to us to be rang'd in a line under the Cannon of *Fort St. George*; which is a strong and noble one, hanging out *English* colours; we had Mass said betimes, then took a short breakfast, and after hoisting the white Flag, and adorning the ships, and the round tops with Flowerdeluce's shields, we made all the sail we could, till we came over against *St. Thomas's*, a Town belonging to the *Portugues*, 2 Leagues from *Madras*, where formerly stood the noblest Fort of the Country.

This place is remarkable for the *Martyrdome* of *St. Thomas* the Apostle, who suffer'd here; his Sepulcher is this day to be seen on a rising ground hard by the Town; the shoar was cover'd with people, who came to be spectators of the action that was like to ensue.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXVII.

Combat of Madras.

WE now perfectly discovered the number of the Enemy's ships, and their strength; I counted fourteen, of which only eleven carry'd Guns; that is, six *Dutch*, with their Admiral, which seem'd to carry 63 guns, with a flag on the main top mast; and five *English*, of which the Admiral, who was 60 guns too, had a flag also on the main top.

Monsieur *Duquesne*, observing the greatest of them anchor'd next to us, and that the rest lay between them and the Fort, hung out a flame of Orders, to command the several Captains aboard; to concert the manner of the attack, and to gain the wind.

'Tis indeed convenient, that the *Lyon* and the *Dragon* should coast it from *St. Thomas's* to gain the wind, and throw out a small anchor by the

sides of the lesser ships, that the others follow'd by the *Rock*, the *Flowrishing*, and the *Bird*, should attack the rest; and that while we fir'd on the *Dutch* Admiral, which was our part, Monsieur *d' Auberville* should endeavour to approach it with his fire ship by the favour of the smoak. These orders given, each took his post immediately to execute them.

Never men more heartily desir'd to come to action than ours, and we had reason to expect an answerable success, and by the manner of our falling on, our thoughts ran more on a certain Victory, than an uncertain fight. The *Lyon* and the *Dragon* who made all the sail they could, were presently within shot of the Fort, which began to fire upon them; yet notwithstanding they past by with little or no damage; and according to orders, came and anchor'd over against the ships they intended, and fir'd furiously upon them. It might now be about One in the afternoon, and we followed them so close, that the enemy had scarce answer'd them again, when we

came

came up with the *Dutch* Admiral, and gave her a broad side.

'Tis not very common to see six such ships as ours attack eleven large ones, and to bear all their fire, and that of a strong fort too; the least of whose guns were twenty four and thirty six pounders, and indeed the fire was so terrible of both sides, that nothing was to be seen but fire, smoak and ball.

'Twas then that Monsieur *d' Auberville* disdaining danger, in the midst of that shower of Ball, attempted to fire the *Dutch* Admiral; who seeing a fire ship coming towards him, in vain endeavour'd to avoid it; Monsieur *d' Auberville* shew'd great courage and conduct in this undertaking; so having quickly fastned the fireship to the Admiral, with chains and graples, and set fire to it, he leapt into the boat, which return'd safe to his ship, in spite of all the fire of the enemy.

All expected that this undertaking would have had the greatest success, and that the Admiral could not escape being burnt; nay, the *Dutch* themselves.

selves were of that opinion, for they presently quitted her, and got into 2 boats to make off. But unhappily the graples (being only made of hoops) breaking, she fell off, and Drove ashoar, consuming none but her self, which the *Dutch* observing, they with great joy return'd aboard again, from whence they fir'd as before: The fight still continu'd with great obstinacy, till 5 in the evening; when the Commandant gave orders to cease firing. We had not a man kill'd, except a Valet of a *Mandarin*, whose bowels were carried away with a Cannon ball; But we suffer'd more in our masts, which was partly the reason we quitted them so soon.

CHAP.

C H A P. XXVIII.

After the fight, we took and burnt an English ship in the face of the enemy.

HAVING anchor'd about a quarter of a League distant, where we past the rest of the day in refitting; between ten and eleven in the evening we had a false alarum in our Squadron, I don't know how; a sloop that in all probabillity knew not what had past, came directly to the *Dragon*; the seamen on the watch discovering her, fir'd at her which made her retire presently; however this alarum'd the whole squadron, which immediately had orders to be in a readiness, and to keep a strickt Guard all night, for fear of a surprize, tho' the contrary winds, and the disposition of the enemy was a sufficient security against it.

But in affairs of war one can't be too vigilant; for then, whatever happens,

happens, it cannot be imputed to folly or neglect, however this unaccountable trifle of a sloop disturb'd us all, and depriv'd us of our rest that night.

Next morning we saw the ships lying nearer the Fort, and rang'd in a better line then they were before. We then perceiv'd our oversight in not boarding them to rights at first, by the much greater difficulty of attacking them a second time; they had now plac't themselves at such a distance from each other, that the Fort might fire at us, without hurting them; a piece of management they had neglected the day before.

Considering the difficulty of a second attempt, and the uncertainty of succeeding, we resolv'd to pursue our course, tho' with an easy sail, that we might give them time to follow, if they thought they could make any thing of it, but there appear'd not the least disposition in them; on the contrary they fir'd several guns for joy that they had escapt us so cheap; but we understood afterwards that they

they buried some Officers, who were kill'd in this action.

However we still pursued our course under a slack sail, eying a vessel we discover'd at anchor two Leagues before us. The *Bird*, which kept a head of the Squadron approacht within shot of her, and sent in his sloop arm'd, with an Officer; who found nothing in her but such trifling things as the *English* had not time to take away, we left some men to sail her, but she prov'd so slow, that we chose rather to set her a fire than to be troubled with her, which he did, (after taking out of her whatever might be of any use) not far from a *Dutch* Factory, nam'd *Pailliacat*, and in the sight of the enemy.

CHAP. XXIX.

An English Vessel chapt, and run aground.

WE afterwards lancht out into the *Ocean*, and by that means lost the sight of *Masilipatam*, where they make the finest painted Calico's in all the *Indies*, and the most vallu'd in *Europe*; after some days, having regain'd the Coast, the 30th of *August*, in the morning we perceiv'd a Vessel near the shoar without a Top-mast; tho' we made towards her with *Dutch* colours, yet she hung out none, and we observ'd that she had not so much as a flag staff, which made us believe she was a *Moor*, and Monsieur *Duquesne* being farther convinc't of it by her building presently tackt about, and stood away.

Next day, being the last of this month, we discover'd another about three in the afternoon, which presently

ly hoisted sail, and fir'd several Guns at her departure, we presently made all the sail we could after her, and gave the chase signal to the *Lyon*, and the *Dragon*, who gaining the wind, got between her and the shoar, to prevent her running her self a ground; the rest of us kept under the wind to intercept her course; but notwithstanding she being far a head of us, and making all the sail she could, ran herself aground at a place call'd *Cangam*, near a River which bears that name, before we could come within shot of her.

It was now too late to attacque her, or so much as to perceive how she lay; in this uncertainty we anchor'd so, that she could not escape us without being seen, and in the Morning, Monsieur *Daguesne* sent Monsieur *de la Neuville*, second Captain of the *Bird*, to view her with all the sloops.

This little Squadron of arm'd sloops, as is necessary on such an Expedition, quickly reacht the place, where that change of waters is observ'd, which is caus'd in the sea by the overflowing of this River; we now began

to found; by reason of a vast number of little rocks that lay under water hereabouts, beyond which this ship had run her self aground; we went two fathom and a half water, without being able to come near her; so that we could not imagin, how 'twas possible for the Vessel to get so far in.

About a quarter of an hour after, we saw a topmast floating on the side of the ebb, with seven seamen clinging to it, who were half drown'd, and who by signs, of Crosses, desir'd us to save them; Monsieur *de la Neufville* going towards them took them up in his boat, where they no sooner were, but the seamen fell a rifling these miserable people, for the money they had hid in the waist bands of their breeches. They were, *Portuguese*, who inform'd us, that 'twas an *English* ship of 36 guns coming from *Masilipatam*, that from the time she was run aground, the Captain debarkt with 40000 Roupies in silver, which is 20000 crowns *French*, and her richest lading that could be best carried off: That the *English*, who were but
fifteen

fifteen, sav'd themselves a shoar, except two or three, whom we saw on the deck; adding also, that they themselves had made the same shift, in order or get a shoar, but the tide of ebb instead of landing them, carried them farther out to Sea.

We saw her struck at one end, and so we judg'd, there could not be above three foot water where she was; the vast surges that roll all along on this coast, went over her stern, so that in the condition she lay, there seem'd to be little likelihood of getting her off, but by pieces. They ask't the *Portugues* if the sloops could come at her without danger, they answer'd, that we must steer directly towards her Stern, But Monsieur *de la Neufelle* not judging it so easy a matter, resolv'd to run no such hazards on the bare word of Strangers, in an enterprize, which in the opinion of every one, would have succeeded better than he expected.

The *Negros* appear'd thick on the shoar, to see what we would do; both the *English* and they expected to see the ship pillag'd or burnt; but they were

H

not

not a little pleas'd with their mistake, when they saw our sloops tacking and going off again, accompanied with great rains. We were afterwards inform'd that there was aboard a great deal of Scarlet cloath, and *Massilipatan* Calico's, so that we lost a considerable booty.

CHAP. XXX.

Two English ships richly laden escape our Squadron, which anchors before Balazor. Our Admiral happily avoids being burnt.

THE calm hinder'd our departure this day, but the next being the 24. of *Sep.* we sail'd with a fresh gale that just began to blow. The two following days we discover'd another ship, and presently made what sail we could after her; sometimes she made towards the land, as if she intended to run a shoar; then she would tack, and stand out to sea, as if she did not

know

know what course to take. At last seeing the *Lyon* and the *Dragon* ready to come up with her, after some hours chase, she struck her topmast, which she would have hoisted again immediately; the *Dragon* hanging out a white flag, fir'd a gun at her, which oblig'd her to ly by, till the Admiral came up.

She prov'd a *Moorish* ship, bound from the *Maldiv*e Islands, laden with *Coris's*, which are certain shells that pass for small mony at several places, as *Bengale*, *Siam* and *Guinne*. We sail'd together almost to *Balazor*, where we arriv'd later than we expected, by reason of the calms we met; however on the seventh we came in sight of it at 4 in the evening.

Two *English* Vessels which lay in the road as soon as ever they saw us at a distance, presently hoist sail; thinking it better to quit the place than to expect us, tho' they were secure enough; the *Great Mogull* on whom this Country is dependant, suffering no vessel to be attackt in 8 fathom water. They made towards the mouth of the *Ganges*, to anchor

at a good distance from us; expecting as they said, a Convoy of twelve ships, because they were richly laden with Coupans and gold ingots from *Japan*; but we had the wind so scanty, that they could hardly fly, or we pursue, but we observ'd we were the better sailors, for when they came to an anchor, we were within two cables length of them.

The Commandant order'd three guns to be fir'd, to give the Director of the *French* Factory notice of our arrival, and sent his sloop to *Balazor* next day for fresh provisions, which did not return again in three days, being no less than seven Leagues by Land. Monsieur *Pele* the Director, and several other Merchants came aboard, who brought two ships laden with provisions with them, which by reason of the wind, were oblig'd to anchor at two Leagues distance from us till it chang'd, but there appearing no likelihood of it, we went and joyn'd them.

He receiv'd us with a flag, and one of them saluted us with seven guns. The fresh provisions were distributed amongst the ships of the Squadron, of which we stood in great need, for

we were half famisht. Monsieur *Duquesne* writ to Monsieur *Deslandes*, Director general, who commonly resides at *Ougly*, a Town situated on the bank of the *Ganges*, fifty Leagues from *Balazor*; to make ready two thousand sacks of Biscuit, with the Merchandize that was to be transported to *France* against the 15th. of *December*, when he expected to return.

The same day about two in the afternoon, we had the saddest alarm that cou'd happen aboard, a fire began in the *Lyons* room through the negligence of the Mate, but the Counter-master happening by good providence to be a sleep there, suddainly wak't and cry'd Fire, every one fear'd and alarm'd, run to draw water, and to wet linen cloaths to extinguish it; it had already reacht the cable room, but we follow'd it so close, and took such care, that it did little damage.

About three days before, and I know not for what reason, (which ought to make us admire and thank the Divine Providence the more) we remov'd the powder out of the *Lyons* hold, (which is put there in times of
H 3 action,)

action,) and that very happily; for if it had continued there, the fore-castle blowing up, we should have had but little time to have sav'd our selves in the sloop.

CHAP. XXXI.

The Squadron leaves Balazor for Mergui, which we could not gain; is disperst by a storm, and suffers extreamly.

THE 13th. of September we parted from Balazor for Mergui, we had little wind that day, and a calm at night; so that after having several times weigh'd and cast anchor in vain, we were forc'd to make use of the Currents, and to drive with the tide when it serv'd us.

On the 18th. at night there happen'd an Eclipse of the Moon, which lasted from seven, till thirty Minutes past nine, a third part was darkned; I believe neither this nor that I mentioned

tioned before, were seen in *France*; for 'twas about two in the afternoon when we saw it there.

Till this day we were still troubled with weighing and casting anchor continually: The 29th. in the evening this long calm chang'd into a violent storm, that after loosing two anchors we were oblig'd to hoist sail tho' the wind was against us; the storm encreas'd so, that about midnight we thought we should a lost all our Masts.

In the morning we saw none of our ships but the *Bird*, the tempest having separated the rest. The Rendezvous was to be at *Negraille*, in case we could not make *Mergui* our port, for which, the wind was quite contrary, and so violently accompanied with hail, that we struck our top sails three or four times a day; being fearful we should want water if this weather lasted, and tho' we had supplied our selves for six months at *Ponticheri*, we had so wasted it, that we had not enough for one month. Monsieur *Duquesne* began to manage it with care retrenching the Rice, which

consum'd a great deal of it, and order'd Biscuit in its place, and stinted the whole Company to a pint a day.

I never was more sensible of the violence of thirst; the salt Victuals, and the Extream heats had almost parcht me up, once in the extremity of this suffering, I offer'd five Crowns for a pot of water, but cou'd find none that would accept of it, each labouring under the same evil, so that there was no remedy but patience, which is but a small relief to him that is stinted by nature.

At length the wind chang'd, and continued good for five or six days, in which we recover'd what we had lost of our way; But it becoming changeable again, we sail'd sometimes losing, sometimes gaining, without hopes of seeing *Mergui* so soon as we expected, which very much afflicted us.

The last of *September* in the morning, we discover'd a sail a head of us, steering the same course; we made what hast we could to know what she was, and after three hours chase, we came

came within shot of her, who hung out a flag all red; we hung out ours, which they saluted by hoisting their topmast three times for want of guns. Monsieur *Duquesne* sent his sloop to bring the Captain aboard, who shew'd him a Pals-port sign'd by Monsieur *Martin*; he was accompanied by three old men like himself, clad in *Muslin* Shirts, and *Turbants* on their heads, and each a long beard, they were rich *Moorish* Merchants, bound from *Mas-filipatam* for *Mergui*: they had a flag all red by way of distinction, and to shew they were more than ordinany; for the common flag of the *Moors*, is no more than a cimiter crost with its scabard on a red ground. We regail'd them with wine, *Tea*, and sweetmeats, and after viewing exactly and admiring our ship, they departed without selling any of their goods, which they held at too dear a rate. Next day we lost sight of them.

The fifth of *October*, discovering another ship we steer'd towards her for some time, believing she was one of our Squadron, of whom as yet we had heard no news since we were separated

parated at *Balazor*; but as she made off with all the sail she could, and that 'twould have carried us too far out of our way to have persu'd the Chase, we quitted her, to make our best advantage of the little wind we had; it never was so changeable, for if it favour'd us for a day, 'twas a calm again at night, or perhaps contrary for four or five days after; in the mean time the water in the hold was very much diminish'd, and our thirst increas'd more and more with that little we drank of it at meals, and the violent heats.

CHAP. XXXII.

A wonderful shower of rain falls: We discover the Isle of the Andamants, a barbarous people.

GOD who never abandons his own in such extremities as these, shew'd us in some measure the same favour he formerly did the *Israelites*

lives in the wilderness; and by a large and unexpected shower of rain, which supplied us all with the means of quenching our violent thirst, that tormented us so much.

How eagerly did all endeavour to taste of this celestial *Manna*, every one, sought vessels and all other shifts to save as much as they could, and then with what greediness did they drink it, I am sure no Champaign wine ever drunk like it to me; we fill'd 27 barrels with this water, which refresh'd us very much in the midst of our distress, not so much as knowing where we were.

We continu'd a long time in this uncertainty, but having at last a good wind, we judg'd by the Latitude, that we were not far from the *Andamants*, nor by consequence from the *Coco* Islands, which are but ten Leagues thence; which was the reason we lay by every night, or five or six hours together, for fear of running upon them.

The 12th. of *October* before sun rise, we discover'd the Isles of the *Andamants*, which we left on the right, lying

lying in 13 Deg. 40 Minutes North Lat. and a hundred and 16 Deg. forty nine Minutes Long. the Inhabitants are the most cruel and savage in the world, they neither trade nor correspond with any other whatsoever, not so much as suffer any to land upon their coast, and if by Chance they are so unhappy as to be driven upon't: these Barbarous savages immediately kill them, and dress them for food.

CHAP. XXXIII.

The great Straights that Monsieur Duquesne was in for want of water, makes him anchor at the great Isle of Cocos.

AN hour after discovering the Isles of the *Andamants* we saw those of the *Coco's*, which we endeavour'd to gain, that we might take in water at any rate: We had the wind almost quite against us, but in such extre-

mities

mities as these, the utmost was to be try'd, for fear of missing them, and tho' they were in sight of us, yet we several times lost hopes of gaining them, in the mean time we tack'd so often, that on *Sunday* the 15th. at 3 in the afternoon we anchor'd on a little Island which lay South-East and by South of us, bord'ring to the South East of all the rest, but plac'd wrong in the *Carde*. We observ'd it to lie in 14 Deg. N. L. of one side; at about two Leagues distance from it there is larger Islands, which lay to the East of us.

The Commandant sent the sloop arm'd a shoar, in case they should hinder their landing; but none opposing it, they ransak't the whole Island with all the eagerness and nicey, as such violent thirst could inspire them with, without being able to discover spring or river, and consequently any Inhabitants; they past the night easy enough, by reason of the abundance of *Cocos* they met with, which supplied the defect of water, of which they brought us the boat full next day, and two Lizards of a prodigious length,

length, with three *Tortoises*'s, one of which was big enough to make two meals for the whole Crew; but as it was not that we wanted most, Monsieur *Duquesne* sent the sloop presently to the other Island, ordering the Officer if he met with water, to give notice of it by a signal of two fires.

The *Bird* which could not get so near the wind as we, lay at a Loofe, and therefore could not come at an anchor with us, till four in the afternoon, in the morning *Chavilier Dair* came aboard us, as well to know our necessities, as to inform us of his own; for he told us we wanted not only Water, but meat for his Table. Monsieur *Duquesne* reflecting on the miserable condition the last Tempest had brought them too, the Dangers they had run, and those they shou'd be expos'd too; in case they attempted to gain *Merguy* while the wind was contrary: He resolved therefore, in case there was no Water in that great Island, to Steer his course directly to *Negraille*, it being a place design'd for our Rendezvouze, and winter Quarters, if we were not able to reach
Merguy

Merguy, or force the *Siamoi's* to enter-
tain us.

About Two in the afternoon, we
saw the sloop returning, and presently
we hoist sail and met her, in order to
take our measures, according to the
news she brought us; which indeed
was such, as could not be more Wel-
com than in our present distress: Our
Company was all on the Deck to see
the sloop returning loaden, tho' yet
uncertain with what, shouted for joy;
they askt what she brought, and be-
ing answer'd, Water, at that word im-
mediately all our trouble were dis-
pers'd, by this pleasing draught, of
which we drunk unmeasurably; and
then anchor'd with satisfaction near
the great Isle, about a League from
Land.

CHAP. XXXIV.

WE would not loose a moment
of time in going a shoar;
where we loaded fifty tun of water
and wood, tho' not without great toil,
by

by reason of the landing, which is very troublesom at low water. The floops being obliged to anchor at large, we were forc'd to go up to the Neck in the Water, to get a shoar; by reason of the vast number of small Rocks that inviron this Isle.

They who admire shell-work, may glut their fancy here; for the strand is cover'd or'e with the most beautiful shells that can be seen. The Island produces no pallatable fruit but *Cocos*, the vast plenty of which was very beneficial to me, and some others, whose curiosity had oblig'd us to lie in a part of the Island where there is no sweet Water to be had; we kindled a great fire, and past the whole night by it, eating and drinking *Cocos*; not being able to sleep, by reason of the *Maraingevins*, that continually stung us; they are little flies, like thole they call *Cousins* in France; But much more troublesom and pernicious, they appearing only in the night.

Every one will justly wonder, that the same fruit should yeild both meat and drink, yet such is the *Coco*; the tree is lofty, Crooked at the Foot
like

like the *Pinetree*, its branches are gathered'd at top; the fruit is commonly as big as ones head, the bark being so exceeding thick, you cannot find the *Coco* till you have stript it, at the end there's a hole, which you no sooner touch with your knife but there spurts out a clear water, very sweet, and refreshing; they are of a small size in this Island, but I remember at *Moelly* they were so large, that three of us could scarce deal with one of them: You must split the *Coco* to get at the Kernell, which is white and about the thickness of your finger, and tastes almost like a hasel-nut; of all fruits this is perhaps the most useful; the *Indians* besides meat and drink, draw a certain oyl from it, into which the Water turns after it has stood sometime; they make bowls, and cups, of the shells and ropes, and Tow of the bark, to bind and caulk their boats with.

This Island is nothing near so steep as others I have seen, but then 'ts so wooded with high trees, that it is one impenetrable forest all over; besides a great many curious and unknown birds, we saw *Lizards* of 9 or

6 foot long, and as thick as a Mans leg; whose deep mouths were set with teeth as dangerous, as their claws are with talons, however they fled at the sight of us, and do no harm if not attackt; their flesh is wonderful white, and some of our men eat of it, and found it good.

It is stock'd with different sorts of Insects; amongst the rest there's one very little Animal which seems to be all legs, very remarkable by their various colours, and a pretty shell on their backs. There's another creature of the shape of a serpent, which I have often heard cry distinctly in the trees; *Tocquets*, so being ignorant of its other Qualities, we call'd it by that name, as none of us saw any Fallow Deer while we were here, I believe the place is scarce fit for them, and much less for the habitations of men, for I believe it never was inhabited. 'Tis true, that in the Eastern part of the Isle, I observ'd two little hills, whose seeming fertility, together with the beautiful verdure of a Meadow at the bottom, inclin'd me to believe there

there might be some cattel feeding thereabouts, tho' I saw none,

We arriv'd here *Tuesday* the 17th. and departed *Saturday* the 21st. of *October* at 8 in the morning for *Ne-graile*, or rather for *Mergui*, if the wind permitted, which blew very faint, so that 'twas the day following before we reach'd a certain Island that lies ten Leagues distant from the *Cocos*, and in 14 D. N. 50 Min. Lat. it has a chain of rocks that runs a matter of three Leagues out into the sea. Sailing pretty near it, we left it to the Southward of us.

CHAP. XXXV.

Monsieur Duquesne quits his design of going to Merguy, by reason of the contrary winds; and anchors at the Negraille Islands, where he meets the rest of his Squadron.

Here Monsieur Duquesne lost hopes of gaining *Merguy*, and without striving any longer to come near the wind, resolv'd to go to *Negraille*, whether we presently steer'd our courſe; the 24th. we discover'd the land of *Pegu*, and we anchor'd in ten fathom water, tho we were above 8 Leagues from it, ſailing again next morning: About 4 in the afternoon we underſtood that there lay four ſhips at anchor between the great and the little Iſland of *Negraille*, which we made no doubt were our own. Who had ſtood in to that place.

So

So the Commandant having given them the signal of knowledge, in setting his Topgallant in the form as a banner, they answer'd him with the same signal, and sent their sloop to us, which could not get aboard us; so night coming on, together with the danger of the banks, that are very shallow in divers places, oblig'd us to anchor again over against the *Diamond*, a little Island 3 Leagues from *Negraille*, which we left to the right when we came to an anchor.

This next day, being the 26th. we continued still at anchor waiting for the tide, when about eleven we saw a ship, which after having doubl'd the most northerly point of the great Isle, came and anchor'd within half a League of us; we commanded the Capt. aboard, who was a *Portugues*, bound from *Madras*, where he was an eye witness of the action we were engag'd in. He told us the news of the *English* Admirals having lost his nose by the bursting of a gun, and that the *Dutch* had no less then two hundred men kill'd, which are not stories like those the enemy publisht after our departure

ture from *Madras*, and spread over all the *Indies*; of the falseness of which I shall hereafter give you an account.

This evening three sloops having observ'd our ship, we enter'd by the favour of the tide, amongst the rest, where we anchor'd within musket shot of two lands; we debarkt five or six sick men on the little Island, and built two Tents for them on a lovely and spacious plain, that presents it self to our sight at landing. We lay 8 days there, feasting on Venison, and Wild-boar, and very large *Tortoyes*, which we took on the Isle of *Diamonds*, with which the whole Company feasted themselves twice a day, for all had free leave to go a shoar, not excepting the very prisoners.

CHAP.

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CHAP. XXXVI.

The Squadron lying at anchor, Monsieur Duquesne orders five arm'd sloops to chase an English ship; who carry'd out to sea by the winds, were like to have been lost. The Death of Monsieur de la Villaulcers, Lieutenant of the Bird.

THAT we might the better forget our past Misfortunes, Monsieur Duquesne, according to his usual goodness, furnisht us with *Fusees*, powder and ball, to go and shoot some Fallow-Deer; of which there were large numbers in this Island; our ship was already on the bar, when news was brought, that an *English* ship was arriv'd at the point of the great Isle; none of the Squadron being in a condition to go out after her; he sent out five arm'd sloops, under the command of Monsieur Neufville; as soon

as the *English* saw them, they made full sail; however they came within Musket shot of them, and fir'd at one another; but the wind rising, and the enemy making off, Monsieur *Neufseville* was oblig'd to tack about; the wind and Tide which still encreast, drove our sloops a matter of 7 or 8 Leagues out to sea, and in vain they endeavour'd by rowing to recover the land; four of which with much a doe return'd back, after they had been the sport of the winds, and suffer'd extremely through hunger and thirst; having had no provisions with them.

They could give us no account of the fifth, which was Monsieur *Neufseville*; I heard this sad news a shoar, which troubled me the more, because there was a Lieutenant my very good friend aboard; we gave them for lost, but it pleas'd God, almost by a miracle, to restore 'em safe, about two days after, in which there were 25 men, so spent with toil and hunger, that they excited our compassion.

About this time died Monsieur *de la Villeau Clerk*, Lieutenant of the *Bird*,

Bird, dyed of a Fever: the greatest part of the Officers assisted at his Funeral, and we buried him in the plain with a discharge of seven great guns.

CHAP. XXXVII.

A. Description of the Islands of Ne-graille, and an account of what past while the Squadron lay at anchor there.

N*Egraille* consists of two Islands about a Cannon shot distant from each other, and about 4 Leagues off from the *Terra Firma* of *Pegu*; one of which is three Leagues in compass, the other twelve; they are situated in 116. D. of Lon. and 15 D. N. Lat.

'Tis strange that so convenient and happy a place, should only be inhabited by an innumerable number of wild beasts; as Tigers, Elephants, Wild Oxen, Staggs, and Wild-Boars, which

which live there undisturb'd in the midst of the greatest plenty ; no other Island is so stor'd with game, or has better hunting; besides the beasts I have nam'd, which are seen in vast droves; there's plenty of Ring-doves, Wood-cocks, Teal, Parrots, and an endless number of strange birds of divers kinds.

There are Swans, Lizards, and Serpents of a great length, and a great number of *Crocodils*, call'd *Caymans*, who in the day time hide themselves in rivers, the better to surprize the beasts when they come to drink; this subtil creature fastning on the nose of the Wild Oxen, draws them in, and after drowning them eats them.

At the little Island where we took in Water and Wood, are seen two spacious and beautiful plains, cover'd with good feeding, in which the sight loses it self: Through the midst of it, a pleasant river takes its Course; whose Water is exceeding good, and easy to be come at; there we bath'd our selves almost every hour in the day, under the thick shady trees, and in
large

large and greedy draughts, quencht the violence of our raging thirst.

All this place is marshy, and in many places with salt water; yet in the woods there are places where they don't reach, and where there is sweet water always to be found; which the beasts drink of, who come thither in troops of a hunderd at a time, and feed quietly together; without fear of being disturb'd by the Huntsman.

One of my companions and I going a hunting, we follow'd some Harts and Hinds very warmly, which carried us further into the wood than we were aware of; so that after two hours pursuit, being quite tir'd, and intending to return back again, 'twas more than we could do, to find our way, tho' we still flattered our selves with hopes; but after long trying in vain, we at last began to despair, and almost to give our selves for lost; being already over-power'd with hunger thirst and weariness.

We past through a great many Thickets, the paths being only beaten by the wild beasts; the sight of whom diverted our melancholy wanderings
in

in a desert Island, destitute of all Subsistence; expos'd to Tygers, Wild-Oxen and Serpents; in this sad condition, knowing not what to do, we adrest our selves to God; and took observations of the Sun; Steering our course by it. So after much labour and fatigue, and beating about from four in the morning to 4 in the evening, we at length discover'd the plain in which our Companions were encamp'd; from whence we went to our tent, rejoycing that we were not oblig'd to lie in the woods, that night.

These two Isles differ but little, save only this, that the greatest, nourishes a great many *Tygers*, and greater variety of strange creaturs then the less, where the conveniency of water, and the beautiful walks renders it very happy and proper for human habitation. The Hunters had so disturb'd these wild Inhabitants, that the Oxen, whose calves, they every day kill'd; became so furious, that the Femals ran at all they met.

A Captain of the *Marines* belonging to the *Bird*, being a hunting with 2 others

others, was set upon by one of these creatures; she broke his leg, and tore out his bowels, while he was climbing up a tree to save himself; this spectacle so frighten'd his companions, that instead of shooting at her, they fled and left him expos'd to her fury; but however they went back afterwards and took him up half dead, bringing him to the Tent; whom we were oblig'd to leave at *Pontichery*, his wounds and bruises, not permitting him to return to *France*.

CHAP. XXXVIII.

The Squadron departs from Negraile for Balazor; hinder'd by calms; Monsieur Duquesne in vain endeavours to supply himself with fresh provisions at Cheduba.

While we were taking in Water, and Wood, and other Necessaries for our departure, we saw a Vessel

Vessel anchoring half a League off from the *Diamond*; Monsieur *Duquesne* taking notice of it, sent the *Lyon* after her; who found she was a *Portuguese* ketch, that came to take some *Tortoises* before she went to *Pegã*; the *Dragon* joyn'd her a little after, so these two Frigats lay cruising out till the twelfth of *November*, when we sail'd out from between the two Isles of *Negraile*, to be the readier to sail when the wind should present.

We had no sooner anchor'd again over against the *Diamond*, but Monsieur *Duquesne* sent for the Captain of the ketch aboard; he was a *Genoese* by nation, and 'twas from him we understood the enemy reported they had kill'd two hundred of us in the fight off *Madras*, and fourscore of our Officers, of whom were Monsieur *Duquesne* himself, and *Father Tachard*; whom we buried in the night at *St. Thomas's*; we were not a little surpriz'd at this news, for what likelihood was there of *Father Tachard's* being kil'd, who all the time of the fight was in the hold, and so could not be lost, unless the ship sunk; and
how

how was it possible, for us to lose fourscore Officers out of thirty, which was the whole number we brought out of *France*.

However, a report attended with such particulars, did not fail to gain belief every where; and they manag'd it so, that at *Ponticheri* it past for a certain truth; and all along the coast, none knew the contrary, but themselves; who were so far from believing it, that they could not conceal that they were more afraid of us than ever; the best part of them removing with their best effects from *Madras*, for fear we should return and make a descent: And this did not look like the security, and triumph of Victors.

Yet this boasted Victory, serv'd till our return, to conceal the disgrace of having eleven large ships, under the protection of a Fort, insulted by a Squadron of six; I can't imagin what people will think of them, when they see Monsieur *Duquesne* reviv'd again, and the fourscore Officers rais'd from the dead; and our whole Com-
pany

pany as Compleat as before, excepting only four that were kil'd.

Tuesday the fourteenth of *November*, having taken about fourscore *Tortoises*, we sail'd for *Balazor*. That day a *Seaman* of *Provence* deserted us, who enrag'd, because he could not revenge himself for some hard usage he thought he had receiv'd from his Officers, remain'd at the great Isle of *Negraille*; whither we had sent the sloop in the morning to look for our men that had been a hunting since the day before; without taking any other provision, but a little *Rack* and some *Biscuit* in his Pocket, a hatchet, and three great nails; in all probability to make a *Catamaron* with, in which by the favour of the tide, he might gain the Country of *Pegu*, which was but four Leagues distant.

Scarce had we lost sight of *Negraile*, but the little wind we had, turn'd into a downright calm; which lasted a long while, and was very Tiresom by reason of the violent heats, and a malignant Fever that began to spread amongst the Seamen; which we with reason attributed to the extraordinary fatigues

fatigues they had gone through, and to the pestilential ferenes of these Marshy Islands, which are damp, unwholesome Vapors rising after Sun-set; and the whole Crew, that before enjoy'd so perfect a health, became very much infected; so that Monsieur *Duquesne* through a necessity of being supply'd with fresh provisions was oblig'd to stop at *Cheduba*, an Island in the Kingdom of *Racam*, situated in 18 Deg. 23 Min. N. L. and 115 D. 34 M. L. where we lay for a while, and sent three sloops ashoar.

As soon as ever these fearful Islanders perceiv'd them, they fled to the woods; there came a band of them afterwards to the sea side with *Lances* and *Bows* in their hands, making signs that we should not Land; notwithstanding which two of our men did, (and put them out of pain,) by letting them understand as well as they could the reason of it; but 'twas impossible to perswade these savages to supply us with any fresh provisions for our mony, or by the way of exchange, tho' they had plenty of Fowl and Cat-

K

They

They are of a swarthy complexion, and go naked; have very thick hair, and are taller than ordinary. 'Twas no small mortification to fail of being supplied with those Provisions and necessaries we expected to meet with here; our distemper encreasing daily, and having scarce fresh provisions enough to serve the sick, the number of whom by this time amounted to 60, and 'twas not long before I was one of them, but was so happy as to have but six fits of the Fever.

CHAP. XXXIX.

The Squadron anchors before Balazor, where we supplied our selves with fresh provisions, and took in Goods for France.

WHatever care we could take to mannage our fesh provisions, the number of the sick soon consum'd them: so we were forc'd to have recourse to Monsieur Duquesne, who
at

at the instance of Father *Tachar'd* stinted himself of his own, to supply them, who else had perish'd through Want.

I can't hear omit the indefatigable pains this good Father took with them; he toil'd with the *Almoner* from morning till night, visiting some, serving others, and administering the Sacraments to the dying, and performing the utmost that lay in his power. What the Commandant spar'd, prov'd but inconsiderable, when divided amongst fourscore sick persons, who yet were glad of it till they got to *Balazor*, to the sight of which we came the last of *November* in the morning; we sail'd four days along the coast, and the banks of the *Ganges*, which is one of the four principal Rivers of the World; and on the third of *December*, we came to an anchor within three Leagues and a half of the Land, where after firing three guns of notice, as the first time, the Commandant sent Monsieur *Fauche* to give notice of his arrival.

We presently prepar'd to set a shoar at the mouth of the River, those, who

had the disease of the Country, and to get fresh provisions aboard for the rest of the sick; the number of whom was too great to let the *English* know of it, who had a Factory too at *Balazor*, and might make their advantages of it.

Monsieur *Deslandes*, Director general, arriv'd from *Ougly* 2 days after; almost at the same time as the *Merqui*, an *English* built ship of 18 guns, with two others, that the *French* took from the *Siamois*, which were partly laden with Salt-peter, and some bales of goods, that were to be put aboard the Squadron; we unloaded 'em out of hand, and several other great Barks, who every day brought us the rest of the goods; while we were loading, Monsieur *Deslandes* continued a board us, whom the Commandant entertain'd very nobly, and honour'd him several times with the discharge of guns, as well from his own ship, as the rest, who complimented him thus in their Turns.

We were very ill furnisht with fresh provisions here; the beef and mutton was meer carrion, so that two of the Captains who were careful of the health of their men, threw what fell to
their

their share over-board; I never saw any flesh so red, or so likely to procure a flux; however our Captain who did not much concern himself with such things, and the violence of hunger, made us digest them with rice, which was now our bread for four months.

This fare was none of the best, and I long'd to go to *Balazor* to mend my diet, but could not get leave, by reason that at our first landing there were some of the Seamen who got drunk with *Aquavitæ*, and quarrell'd with the *English*, one of vvhom they kill'd with a knife, which was the occasion of hindring the others going a shoar, without so much as excepting some of us, who were not given to such kind of quarrels.

The two *Mandarins* being gone to *Balazor*, to Inquire out a convenient passage to their Country, understood that there was a *Moorish* ship bound suddainly for *Mergui*, they agreed presently for their passage with the Captain, and afterwards came to take their leave of Monsieur *Duquesne*, and Father *Tachard*, who was glad to be

rid of the burthen; The Father who had them under his protection, and who was in honor oblig'd to see them us'd respectfully, having receiv'd them from the hand of the late King of *Siam*; procur'd from Monsieur *Duquesne* a Compliment; to dismiss them with five guns.

We recommended to them the miserable state of the *French* who languish'd in their prisons, and Monsieur *Chamoreau*, Captain of the *Lyon*, besought them in particular, in the behalf of a Brother of his, who was actually a prisoner there, tho' to be plain with them, I believe their interest was very inconsiderable: And if I may believe the account a Jesuite gave me of them, 'twould be as much as they could do to keep their own feet out of the fetters, when they came home.

Father *Duchast*, whom a long Residence in *Siam*, had render'd him knowing in the *Maxims* and policies of this Nation, arriv'd at *Ougli*, and came to salute Father *Tachard*, and to put into his hands a great quantity of provisions, which the Jesuits of this Town sent to those of *Ponticheri*;
after

after he had put them aboard us, he
he return'd very well pleas'd with his
Voyage, and us too ; for he was so civil
as to let us have all the curious stuffs
he had brought from *Ougly* at reason-
able rates. Monsieur *Vasseur*, second
Lieutenant of the *Rock*, dying next
morning, we threw him into the sea,
with 7 guns discharg'd for his Funeral.

CHAP. XL.

*The Squadron parts from Balazor to
return to Ponticheri, we found a
great number of Moors there, who
fled for refuge to the French.*

THe near approach of an ill Sea-
son ; but chiefly the earnest de-
sire of Monsieur *Duquesne*, to return to
France, made us hasten our departure ;
after having taken in fresh Water, and all
other supplies necessary for our Voyage,
we commanded our sick aboard, whom
the land Air had perfectly recover'd.

And on *Saturday* the 30th. of *December*, we parted with *Monfieur Deslandes* for *Pentichery*, being follow'd by the Company's boat loaden with powder and ball for the Fort.

We took our course South East and by South, with a fresh gale, which soon turn'd into a calm; and lasted from the first, to the fifth of *January*, 1691. When it began to blow a fresh again; and on the tenth in the evening, we discover'd the land of *Madras*; at which the Commandant lay by, for fear of passing beyond it in the night, resolving to stop there the next day, if he discover'd any shiping, tho' the fright and consternation the enemy was in, gave us little ground to expect it; yet nevertheless we met one, whom the fort had no sooner warn'd of our arrival by six guns, but she fled; not believing it a sufficient protection.

We follow'd her with all the sail we could make, and at last came up with her, notwithstanding she had been so far a head of us; about four in the afternoon seeing the *Lyon* and the *Dragon* within shot of her, she run herself within a little bank at *Sadras-*
patam,

patam, where her men presently went a shoar. But in vain had she sought for safety there, if the sea, which was very ruff, had not hinder'd us from boarding her; yet we earnestly desier'd it, being ready to run any riskque in the pillageing and burning of her, but Monsieur *Duquesne* judging otherwise of it, pursued his Voyage, and this evening came to an anchor some Leagues beyond *Madras*, from whence we departed next morning being the twelfth, and arriv'd at *Pentichery* at one in the afternoon; the Fort saluted us with nine Guns, and we answer'd them with as many: Father *Tachard* went a shoar presently, taking with him what he had aboard, intending to make his residence there.

I could not imagine that the loss of his Reverence, could produce such different effects as it did; there were some who were very much afflicted at it, and a great many others, who of the contrary were very little concern'd: and most of the Seamen, who are little vers'd in the merits, and worth of Men, were as insensible of the loss
of

of him, as if they had never enjoy'd the advantages of his company; however he wanted not the civility of seven Guns at his departure.

The Publick is like to be oblig'd to him for an account of his Voyage, which at parting he put into the hands of Monsieur *Duquesne*, to deliver it to the R.R. F.F. Jesuites, who were to see it printed, but it contains no return; I read nothing in it which I had not seen, and which I have not inserted in this; except a letter from one of their Fathers, who is at present in *China*; which contains a full account of the Revolution that happen'd at *Siam*, and this has very much enlarg'd his Relation.

Since our departure from *Pontichery*, they had planted on the shoar a new battery of eight Guns, 18 pounder each, being those we had brought from *France*; and we found above twenty thousand *Negros* there, who had fled thither for refuge, under the *French Pavillion*, to avoid the Troops of the *Great Mogul*; who had besieg'd *Gingy*, the Caputal of the Prince of that Name.

This

This is a very great Town, about fifteen Leagues up the land; the strongest, and the only one, able to resist the power of the *Mogul*; with whom this Prince has continual war: And whose Troops, tho' to the number of fourscore thousand, where, as they told us, shamefully oblig'd to quit the Siege, through the vigorous resistance of the Garison and the Town, where the Prince of *Gingy* commanded in person.

Two great Lords of the Country who where at *Pontichery* when we lay at anchor, had the curiosity to come and see our ship, accompanied with five and twenty servants, which they took out of above three hundred, that each of them had; we put all things in as good order as we could, and brought all our Company above Deck, the number of which they admir'd at; but the Sea incommoding them very much, and not being able to stand on the deck, they returned immediately; with a salute of 7 Guns and 7 *vive le Roy's*.

CHAP. XLI.

The Squadron leaves the Indies to return to France, passes the Line the third time, without any inconveniencies, in the 170 D. of Long. The beginning of our Navigation is happy.

After we had taken some hogshheads of water aboard, and some other provisions we wanted; the Commandant took leave of Monsieur *Martin*, who saluted him from the Fort with three discharges of eleven Guns. That day we gave the parting Gun; so on *Wednesday* the 24th. of *January* we sail'd by four in the morning, to quit the *Indies* for this time, and return to *France*; the wind was very favourable to us, and soon carried us a considerable distance, from a land, which we wisht six thousand Leagues off us.

It

It seem'd to me as if this long Voyage we now entered on, would never be ended, and tho' we sailed ne're so swiftly, and I had made the Voyage already, yet I fancy'd we should never come to the end of it: however we made such way, that *February* the 24th. 3 in the afternoon we past the Line the third time, in 107 D. of Long. without any inconveniency of Calms or Heats. Such a happy beginning of a Voyage was no little comfort to us, and the hopes 'twould continue so, sweeten'd our toil, and made the time more pleasant than before.

The 16th. We had the sun in our Zeinth, that is, darting his Beams perpendicularly on us, casting no shadow, but on the contrary an excessive heat, which we were forc'd to bear, without so much as one drop of Water to refresh us between meals; this heat diminish'd insensibly as we departed from the Sun, and enter'd into cooler climates; which however did not hinder our experiencing great miseries and fatigues, and had we not been unaccustom'd to 'em, should scarce have

have been able to have undergone
'em. *from blustering and blowing winds*

The 25th. in the morning we past the *Tropick of Capricorn*, and met with Blustering winds in these Latitudes, which forwarded us very much on way; but afterwards became so outrageous, that we cou'd more willingly have embrac'd the most tiresome calm.

CHAP. XLII.

A dreadful tempest happens in the Heighth of Mascarin, which disperses the Squadron, and is in great danger of being lost.

BEing now the time of *Carnevall*, Monsieur *Duquesne* was obliged to give us Wine, instead of Rack, which we had drunk for four Months before, at this time every one is desirous to fare a little better than ordinary, but in vain did we attempt it at sea, where good chear is generally

ly scarce, but especially in such long Voyages as these; the Seamen danc'd Morning and Evening, and were very merry; which joyn'd with the fair wind we had, serv'd to lessen the time, which was more irksom to us, than any thing else.

The Wind already blew so strong, that we sail'd no less than 3 Leagues an hour; and encreasing on *Tuesday* the 1st. of March, obleig'd us to furl all our Sails, except the fore-mast; and the air was so thick and Cloudy, that we cou'd scarce discern from Ship to Ship, which prov'd but too Fatal an Omen, of that dreadful Tempest that ensu'd. Sure nothing cou'd be more Frightful and amazing, than to see the air condens'd, and our beloved Element representing a dismal scene of Death. The Winds spent their utmost rage, and seem'd to groan beneath their Burthen; while the yawning seas torn with their fury, eagerly desir'd to make a prey of us: Yet still kept us in suspense, even in the Arms of Death; about Four in the afternoon, the foremast sheet was blown to rags, and the vast noise and Universal

versal rousing of the ship, fill'd us all with confusion and horror.

And now being about 3000 Leagues from Land, we saw ourselves exposed to the outrageous Element; without sails, and destitute of all means that might tend to our safety. The vast prodigious waves no sooner rowl'd over our Decks, and fill'd our ship with water, but greater still return'd, and seem'd to sink us to the Bottom; so that sometimes we had scarce time to take breath, and hardly knew whether we were in the ship or the sea.

In this miserable condition and approaching danger, every one plied the pump; and the short remainder of the day, we spent in fastening a sprit sail to the yard of the fore-mast sail, which we had no sooner done, but as an addition to our misery, a dismal shout was heard at the sight of one of our ships, which driven by the violence of the Storm, was just ready to run foul of us, and split us both.

All that's horrible and amazing in death, presented it self to our view;
each

himself at the last moment of life, knew not what course to take, or what he should do to avoid it; we unfurl'd our two sprit-sails, which were no sooner loose, but the winds blew them into a thousand Shatters however they serv'd to Clear us of the ship, to which we so happily shew'd our lights; that hoisting her foremast sail she past by, without damage on either side.

In the midst of so many alarums and continual dangers, we past the rest of night in pumping, and rummaging the inside of the ship, which was so wet that there was not a dry place to be found in't to lie down: Rivers of Water ran continually over the deck; the Boxes, chests, and all the hammocks were thrown down, and nothing was to be seen throughout the whole Vessel but the perfect picture of a shipwrack, to which the winds and Seas seem'd to conspire; this night we had the the *Jack Staff* carried away by one single Wave.

We waited for day Break with more impatience than our Friends for our Return, as tho' 'twould alay the storm.

or rescue us from danger; at last it came, but alas it only serv'd to give us a clearer sight of our Misery, so that *Friday* in the morning, the wind and the seas having abated nothing of their rage, but still encreasing; and finding our selves quite spent, we with horror beheld the Wild and almost inevitable death that waited for us.

We had recourse to GOD as the only means left, and with tears in our Eyes, and terror in our Hearts, we implor'd his Infinite Goodness, by the suffrages of the Blessed Virgin, and St. *Joseph*; whom we pray'd to interpose their credit to obtain mercy for us. In the mean time we ply'd four pumps continually, and having discover'd two great Leaks, the one afore, the other aft we were oblig'd to make a well in the bottom of the keel, and to draw the water thence with Buckets and Pails to prevent sinking.

'Twas strange, that tho' watching and fasting had quite spent us; yet we shou'd gather strength out of our very weaknets, and work and toil on, without

without so much as reflecting on our miserable condition; each of us thought of nothing but disputing his life, which he saw prest and attackt with a thousand dangers at once.

We continued thus toyling in our Misery, till four in the evening, when not knowing what farther course to take to save our selves, or to resist the violence of the storm, we a second time adrest our selves to GOD, vowing upon a deliverance to have a Service, or each his particular Mass said at St. Anns in Auray.

We crept up upon the Deck, and our *Almoner* on his knees, under the quarter deck, as did all the rest invok the aid and mercy of Heaven, in the name of two hundred and fifty Saints more, who poured out their Souls in the same devotion, imploring the mercy of GOD; never was a more moving Spectacle seen, and I then with horror read our ruin in the disparting looks of Monsieur *Duquesne*, who kneeling on his bed, and looking fixedly on the raging Seas, mounting high in the air, and threatning us with ruin, seem'd to tell us there was

no more hopes left but in the immediate Favour of Heaven: The Vow being made, he let himself fall on his bed, saying his only hopes were in the Infinite mercy of GOD, and that 'twas invain to strive any longer.

This, I own threw me into the last despair, yet we were resolv'd to try once more what we could do; resolving to save our selves, or perish; we try'd to hoist a second time our foremast sail, where we us'd care in taking of the rise; each with fear and impatience waited the success of a course, that was either to save or ruin us; and at this very time we were quite consum'd with the labour of the merciless Sea.

A little after a Seaman, whom the Sea had swept out of the ship, was thrown in again by the Waves, and sav'd.

But GOD at last show'd us mercy, and pitty; and was pleas'd to put an end to all our Fatigues and sufferings; for unfurling the foremast sail, it resisted the wind; when full of joy and acknowledgement for so visible a protection, we began to pursue our way;

and

and in our turn, triumphing over those Waves that had so insulted us for two days together.

We ran thus the rest of the night, and next day, being *Saturday*, the wind began to alter about four in the morning; so that at break of day we saw our selves out of that danger, which continually threatned us for eight and forty hours together, without sleeping, or eating, or drinking, save a little Biscuit and Rack.

When we had stopt the two leakes as well as we could, we fell to settling all things in the inside of the ship, that were in confusion; for nothing cou'd be seen but Chests and Arms, &c. scatter'd up and down; fowls and beasts drown'd; in short, an Emblem of an universal Deluge: each now taking breath, began to provide for himself, some prest with hunger, began to search for Victuals; but the kitchens being spoiled we could have none drest in three days time; and others almost dead for want of sleep, fell to drying their beds and cloaths in the Sun.

Never was the returning spring, after a long and Torrid winter, more greatful than the sight of the Sun to us, which compos'd the remainder of the storm, and hush'd it quite asleep: This was a truly happy day to us; but seeing our selves all alone, we reckon'd we were preserv'd by Heaven, only to carry home the dismal news of the loss of the rest of the Squadron; we sail'd on, still continuing our way, and endeavouring to discover what was become of the rest of the ships, whose rendezvouze was appointed at *Martinico*.

CHAP.

CHAP. XLIII.

As we approach the Cape of Good Hope, we meet with contrary winds, with much fatigue and sickness. Monsieur Duquesne finds part of the Squadron which he gave for lost.

THe beginning of the month we sail'd with all success imaginable, during which time we often saw certain dark Birds with yellow Beaks, but towards the end, as we approacht the Cape of *Good Hope*, meeting with contrary winds we suffered great fatigues, which were very prejudicial to our men, and occasioned the Bloody Flux, and other Distempers; and the Cold increasing daily, was as great a Mortification to us now, as ever the heats had been before.

The Severity of the Climate had not been so tiresome, if our passage

had been more speedy ; but we scarcely had sailed above forty or fifty Leagues, but the Wind chopt about, which forc'd us to ly by till it came fair again; and these delays were very uneasy to us, by reason of the continual rains, and excessive rowlings of the ship.

The third of *April*, I remember amongst a number of other Misfortunes, we had Thunder, Lighting and contrary Winds, opprest us, all at once; which gave us all imaginable disturbance, and the excessive roulling and tossing of the ship would not let us take one moments rest, or suffer us to stay a minute in a place, and sure nothing could be more irksom than our present condition was, especially the little hopes we had of a speedy deliverance.

The next day we received an unexpected comfort; for about Seven in the morning we perceiv'd, through the vast Fogs that arose, two ships a head of us, to whom we gave chace, though all alone, and had suffered so much in our Rigging; they immediately made us the Signals of Acknowledgments, in furling the Fore-sail, and lashing the Fore-top-sail; to which we

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answer'd in the same manner, and had no sooner hoisted up a white flag, but they did so too: We quickly perceiv'd they were our own ships, and as soon as came near them, they severally saluted us with five Guns a piece, and a *Vive le Roy*; the first was the *Lion*, whose Poop, as well as ours, was carried away; the second was the *Dragon*, who for eight days had been separated from the rest: If we were glad at the sight of them, they were not less surpriz'd at our return, they believing us lost ever since they had seen a Top-mast floating on the Sea; they told us, that the Squadron had suffered extreamly, and that the *Bird* had been forced to heave her Boat and four Guns over board to save herself; and that the *Flourishing* and the *Rock* were nigh being lost, all the Goods in the first being spoiled, and the last having been obliged to pump continually to save themselves.

CHAP. XLIV.

We gave thanks to God for finding our selves on the Bank of Needles, which we happily passed, and the gentle Trading Winds succeeding, we sailed prosperously.

AS bad as this news was, we were glad to hear it, for we never expected to see or hear of one another more, and great wou'd have been our satisfaction in pursuing our Voyage together, if the South West Winds, which lasted eight days, had not obliged us to lie by ; at last they chang'd, and having seen a little Bird, of the size of a Sparrow, we judg'd we were not far from Land.

Having sounded several times without finding ground, though according to the variation, and the Point of the Pilots, we shou'd have been on the *Bank of Needles*. The 7th. of April we saw a Whale, and several Birds, as Cormorants, and *Velvet Channels*, were sitting

sitting on the Water, which gave us to understand we were very near Land ; so that next day being the eighth, the *Dragon* having found ground, hoisted a Flag to give us notice of it, we presently huddled over a few prayers, according to custom, and sounding all along we found ground in a 100 fathom Water.

It was wonderful strange that in this place, where the Sea is always so boisterous and violent, it prov'd a dead Calm, followed by so gentle a Breeze, that we past this *Bank* of 24 Leagues in length, with our Top-gallant Sails only : Thus having doubled the *Cape of Good Hope* we took heart, and hoped for a prosperous Voyage hence forward, the Winds being now so favourable.

And indeed we made great way, for after having sailed 200 Leagues beyond it, we began to breath in a temperate Air, and to have fair and clear Weather, constantly accompanied with the gentle *Trading Winds* ; it seem'd as if God was now pleased to give us a little comfort, after so much misery and Sufferings ; and, to say truth,
we

we extreemly stood in need of it, for the Vessel was not able to bear any more weather; our Men were very sickly, and grew so more and more, with what they had suffered in doubling the Cape; so that every day some of 'em died, either of the Flux, or of the *Scurvey*.

Yet still we had reason to believe our selves happy, the Cold abating by degrees, and warm weather succeeding, which was no small relief to those who were ill of the latter Distemper; the Sea was now no longer dangerous, but on the contrary all was calm and pleasant, as if we had made an In-land Voyage.

CHAP. XLV.

Our pleasant Navigation invites us to fish. A Description of an extraordinary Fish call'd a Requiem.

THIS happiness, and the Diversions we gave our selves of Gaming, Dancing and Reading, charm'd the fatigues of so long a Voyage; besides

besides these, we often delighted our selves with Fishing, and in one calm day we caught numbers of *Toms*, *Gold-fishes* and *Bounites*, and a large Fish call'd a *Requiem*, by fastening a great piece of Bacon to the hook.

This monstrous Creature is between 15 and 16 foot long, and almost as big as a Man, it has no shell, but a skin thick and rough like Shagrin, with a Muzzle half round, distinct from the rest of the head; four fingers below, towards the Belly is plac'd the larger mouth, whose two Jaw bones have each three rows of Teeth, which are large and flat, yet very sharp, so that whenever he eats he is forc'd to throw himself on his back.

It seems as if Nature, wonderful in her productions, wou'd by that means suppress the devouring Appetite of this greedy Creature, which I have seen return three times to the same Bait, tho' the hook had torn his Gills before.

This Monstrous creature does not shun Men, as other fish do, for he no sooner sees him in the water, but he follows him, and when he designs to quit the prey, he throws himself upon

upon it, carrying away that part on which he fastens first; he is never seen but in a calm, following ships to catch whatever meat or rubbish the Seamen throw out.

Certain little Fishes of the size of a *Sardine* which Swims before, (free from the insults of this creature as devouring as it is) and serve him as a Pilot, for from thence it is they are called by that name; they are such faithful companions to him, that when he is taken with the hook, and drawing in, they lie on his back; and suffer themselves to be drawn in also.

I had forgot to mention how we found in the belly of one we took, a Knife and six pound of Bacon, which in all probability it got at the hook; I believe there is no creature in the World so hard liv'd, and difficult to kill.

I took notice of one thing, among several others on board our Ship, that was peculiarly amazing in this fish; which was this, that it being cut in peices, and each peice, separated from the heart, yet they all

mov'd

mov'd alike, which surprized us very much.

This fish has a sort of marrow in the head, that hardens against the Sun, and being powder'd, and taken in White-wine, is very good for the Chollick.

CHAP. XLVI.

Monsieur Duquesne meets with two more Ships of his Squadron and sail together, in Order to anchor at the Isle of the Ascension.

While we enjoyed the innocent diversion of fishing, a more solid entertainment diverted us for some time, the wind which we had directly in our Stern, made us dispatch no less than 40 Leagues a day, sailing now as expeditiously since our departure from Pontichery, as we did unsuccessfully before.

The

The 25th. of April, the *Dragon* having given a signal about 3 in the afternoon, that she saw two ships, the Admiral ordered her to give chase to them; they seem'd to be *Dutch* bound for *St. Helens*, from whence we were not far; but when we came up with them, we discovered they were the *Bird* and the *Flourishing*, which we had not seen in two Months before. Our Squadron had now been all re-united, if the *Rock*, which they told us, was a head of us, had been in company; We made use of the Wind, which was very favourable to joyn her at the Isle of *Ascensions*, near which we should pass to take some *Tortoise* aboard.

We never had more need of going a shoar, for our Company was harrast and quite spent with our poor diet, and continual pumping night and day; for our refuge was nothing but a little Brandy at our meals, with Biscuit and stinking flesh, and this was but a small relief to the sick, who dy'd 3 or 4 at a time, and were pittied in vain by others, in whose power it was not to help them.

You

You might see fifty at a time, some dried up with a Feavour, and others consum'd with the Bloody Flux; a third sort bloated and disfigured with the Country-disease, for we could not get one drop of good Wine, or a bit of fresh meat for them, since our fowl and Sheep, design'd for their use, perished in the Tempest, which surpriz'd us in the height of *Mascarin*.

You may imagine that the long continuance of such ill diet, began to be very loathsome to us; the *Scurvy*, and weakness of a continual *Flux* had brought me to nothing; but I was still preserv'd, and tho' I had the same distemper with the rest, yet not the same destiny; for I often saw my self surrounded with the sick, and dying, without the least fear of death, being fully perswaded I should recover when I went a shoar at the Isle of *Ascention*, which we all impatiently long'd for.

The Admiral, who without doubt, is one of the most expert in the Art of *Navigation* the King has, believed we were now drawing near it; and accordingly, after having run some

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Leagues

Leagues more on the eighth of May, at Two in the Afternoon it appeared to us.

We no sooner came near the shoar: But an infinite number of various sorts of Birds, Inhabitants of this desert Island, came in flocks, as it were, to meet and receive us; they crouded so thick about us, that we killed them with half-pikes. Here we anchored in 30 fathom water, over against a great Sand-Creek, where the Tortoises go ashoar, which is at the foot of the Mountain of the *Cross*, so called, because of a Cross which the *Portuguese* have planted on the top, where all Ships that touch there, are obliged to leave a Letter in a Bottle, to inform them from whence, and where they are bound, as also the day they past by.

CHAP. XLVII.

A Description of the Isle of Ascension, and of the great Tortoises that are found there.

AS soon as we had cast Anchor, the Scamen began to fish, and catch vast numbers; next day I went ashoar, although it was very difficult landing, the Sloop being obliged to set us ashoar on a steep rock, where we were forced to creep on all four, with a great deal of trouble and danger; several of our sick that were landed here, died presently, not having strength enough to bear the Air, and the difficulties of climbing the Cliffs.

There is no Water found in this uninhabited Island, nor any thing to be seen but parch'd barren Hills, and Vales without verdure; nay, not so much as a blade of Grass, or any Herb; so violent and piercing are the Rays of the Sun. It's situated in 7 d. 30 m. of S. L. and may be about

M 2 five

five leagues in compass. At first it appeared full of Mountains and Craggy Rocks, cover'd with Birds dung, who make their Nests on the top of them; but in the West of the Island, two high Mountains rise, which are a little green, being better moistned by the frequent Dews, which causes the ground all about, to abound with the largest, and best tasted Pursloine that ever I met with.

As weak as I was, the desire I had to be cured of the Scurvy, in taking the Air at Land, which is the only remedy for this evil, made me run up and down this part of the Island; where I observ'd one thing that was very extraordinary: The Birds which stood thick on the Rocks, suffered us to come so near them, that we might take them with our hands, and I stooping to gather some Pursloine, several hovering round my head, came and pearcht on my Hat, of which I took four alive, and kill'd two more with my Cane.

The great numbers of these Birds, destroy the young Tortoises as soon as hatch'd, for they love their flesh so well

well; that they are continually pursuing them; and before they leave the Egg, or are able to gain the Sea, or swim on the surface of the Water, they kill them with their Beaks; but after they are grown bigger, the lightness of their shell makes them swim with more strength, and defends them from these Birds of Prey. Yet notwithstanding this vast destruction of them, their number is immense; the Tortoise being one of those Creatures, that multiply most! Nor will they admire at it, who consider it as one of the largest fish, that has its Nourishment from this Element.

Its shape and colour being known by most people, I thought it unnecessary to give you a particular description of it here; I shall only say, that its head resembles that of an Eagle, and the Fins, which are about a foot and half long, are hid under their Shells: And for that reason, when the *Requiem* (a fish I have mentioned before) meet with the Tortoises, they always seize upon that part first, and so kill them; their Shell being but thin, and incapable of resisting

so great a strength, as that of the *Requiem* : This Battle I have often seen my self, and so can the better attest the truth of it.

Some who have been ill inform'd, have said, that they make use of their Paws in fighting, as the Land Tortoises do ; but nothing is more false than this, they having nothing like a Paw, only a few Prickles at the end of their Fins, which they Crawl ashoar with, and dig holes in the ground to lay their Eggs in ; which having done, they immediately return to Sea again, leaving them covered, to be hatch'd by the warmth of the Sun.

Great care and diligence must be used in the taking of them, for they are very quick-sighted , you must range your self in the night, in several places of the Creek, where they are known to come ashoar, and when you perceive them at a sufficient distance from the Water, run to 'em and throw 'em on their backs, and then 'tis impossible for 'em to rise again.

The Tortoises that are taken at the Isle of *Ascension*, are the biggest that ever I saw ; there are some that weigh
three

three or four hundred weight, sufficient to feed so many men at a time; the flesh is very wholsom and delicate, and the Eggs, which are exactly round, and are found in great quantities along the coast, are almost as big as an Hen's, but their shells are so thick, that if you throw them against the ground, they will rebound without breaking.

CHAP. XLVIII.

We leave the Isle of Ascention, and happily pass the Line a fourth time by the 346th, Deg. of Long. and come to an Anchor at Martinico.

AFTER having stay'd here three days, to refresh our selves with Purflain and Fish, we left it on the 10th. at Four in the Afternoon, and the eleven Tortoises which we took on this Isle, were a great support to our sick; the goodness of God still favouring us with a fair wind, on the 22d. of May we past the Line a 4th. time, by the 346 Deg. of Long. and indeed we stood in need of an expeditious return, for we had no less than 60 on board who lay

sick on their beds, and they who were on their legs were so spent, that they mov'd compassion: Amongst the first were Monsieur *Baron*, the Almoner, and the King's Secretary, all three afflicted with the same Distemper, viz, the Scurvy, and dy'd within a few days of one another, notwithstanding all care imaginable was taken of them; only Mr. *Baron* had the honour of seven Guns given him, being a Major Officer; so that our ship by its shatter'd condition, and our own miseries, resembled those Hospitals, where one sick Person is no sooner dead, but another takes his place.

In the mean time we made the best of our way towards *Martinico*, where Monsieur *Duquesne* had orders to touch at; and just as we expected to discover it we met with a Squadron of 10 ships, the Admiral of which had her Flag on the main-top mast, which made us believe they were the Enemy; however superior they seem'd to us in strength, we presently prepar'd for a fight, brought down our Hamocks, and threw the Chests into the hold; at least making a shew of courage, tho'

tho' we desired nothing less than fighting, in the miserable condition we were in.

Each reason'd differently of the matter, as he was more or less concern'd for his Life, his Goods, or his Liberty, which he now reckon'd in the utmost danger. Monsieur *Duquesne*, whom Glory and Interest had rendred more discerning than the rest, inferr'd that if this was an *English* Squadron sent to intercept our passed, *France* must be the sufferer, for we shou'd never be able to resist them.

But while this was considering on he resolv'd, that during the rest of the day we shou'd go as near the Wind (which we had of them) as possible, and that when night came on, we shou'd steer a false course to avoid them, which was the only way we cou'd take in the present exigency.

A Capuchin, a Passenger (who was our Almoner since the death of the former) gave the general Absolution above deck by order of the Commandant; after a succinct Exhortation in few words, put us in mind of that Courage and Bravery we had
for-

formerly shown on the like occasions; exhorted us as much as his fears wou'd permit him, to abate nothing of it in the present necessity, when our Lives and Liberties was both at stake.

This Discourse out of season, made me resolve on a certain thing I scrupled to think of before, which happily had no further consequence; for night had scarce conceal'd us from the Enemy, but immediately tacking about we made a false course; in the morning we found our selves as secure as we cou'd wish, and in a few hours in sight of *Martinico*, where we came to Anchor over against *St. Peter's Fort*, *Thursday the 7th. of June*. There rod at Anchor in the Harbour four of the King's ships, Commanded by *Monsieur le Chevalier de Arbouvill*, who, as an inferiour Officer to our Commandant, struck his Flame, and saluted us with seven Guns, and we in return answer'd with the same number.

CHAP.

CHAP. XLIX.

We put the sick a shoar. The whole Squadron rejoins, and prepares to return immediately to France.

WE immediately debarkt the sick, and lodg'd them in an House for that purpose, upon the shoar near the River; who were furnished with Bread, Wine, fresh Meat, Oranges, Lemons, Bananes, Ananes, and all sorts of Refreshments; as were the rest of the Company, which with the plenty of Fish the Negroes brought on board, were sufficient to restore us to our former vigour.

We understood there, that the ten ships we met in our return, were *English*, bound home from *Barbadoes*, whom the Squadron of Monsieur le Chevalier de Arbourville had oblig'd to raise the siege of *Guadaloupa*, with the loss of 500 of the Enemy, and a great many Cannon, having understood since by some *French* prisoners, who had made their escapes, that they were so much concern'd at the sight
of

of us, that as soon as 'twas night they presently tackt and stood a false course as well as we.

They told us also some news from *France*, and amongst other things, that of the death of *Montieur Segnelay*, and of the worthy choice his Majesty had made of *Montieur de Poutchartraine* to supply his place. The death of this Minister was the reason we met with no new orders at *Martinico*, as he promis'd our Commandant, nor the *Flute* loaden with Provisions which he was to send thither, which was the occasion of a greater scarcity there than we expected, Meal and fresh Provisions being somewhat scarce at *Martinico*, ever since the War.

This Island is so well known in *France*, by the relations that have been made of it, and the Trade it maintains there, that I ought not to speak much of it, except some small matters I observ'd in the short stay I made there; but that which pleas'd me most was, the many fine Houses scituated on the Mountains all about, whose Avenues, Allies and Arbours are compos'd of Jessamins, Orange and Lemon Trees, which are as common there, as Apple trees in *Normandy*.

The Women there wou'd be very agreeable, but for the pale colour which is contracted by the Air of the Island, where the heats in my mind are too great
for

for any, but the Natives to live, happily there.

Not being to make any long stay there, we began to Wood and Water, after we had clean'd our Ship and stop't the two leaks we had. At this time the *Rock*, whom we had not yet seen, came from an adjacent harbour where she had lain three days at Anchor before our arrival, and came to an anchor over against the Fort of St. Peter, driven by the Wind and Tide; she rang'd our side so close, that intending to pass betwixt us and the *Flourishing*, she struck against our head and broke the *Beak*, which so provoked Monsieur *Duquesne*, that he resolv'd to have the head *Pilot* drawn under the keel, but he was discharg'd after three days lying in Irons.

CHAP. L.

The Squadron departs from Martinico for France, where they at last safely arrived. Death of Monsieur Questily, Captain of the Dragon.

IT must be own'd that *Idea's* which the mind forms of a future happiness are sometimes wonderful, and delude the time till we arrive at it. I was restless till I came to *Martinico*, and when there, as uneasy

easy till I reacht *France*, nor was it without reason, for whatever advantage we had by being there, there was none but desired to leave it, when he reflected on the number of those that died there daily.

The *Standard*, a ship of the Company's coming from the *Indies* with two others, named the *Game* and the *Loure*, brought a pestilential distemper thither from *Burrill*, which had not yet ceast; so that the most healthy and vigorous amongst us, upon the least excess, were carried off in 4 or 5 days at most, in spite of any remedies that could be used.

This mortality which might have very much lessened the Company, and rendred them so weak as to be scarce able to bring the Ship back again to *France*, made the Commandant resolve to hasten away; we took in Wine and new Biscuit, and after imbarcking the sick, we sail'd the 2d. of *July* at nine in the morning, followed by *Monsieur le Cebvaler de Arboville*, who was to Convoy two and twenty Merchants to *Rochfort*.

We were presently becalm'd, which hindred our coming within sight of the *English* Islands till the 8th. when making all the sail we could we left the convoy behind us, the Merchants sailing very heavily.

By

By leaving *Martinico* we thought to have left the distemper that reign'd there, but it follow'd, us and did not take it's leave till it had swept away sixteen of our Men, in the first fifteen days after our departure. Monsieur *de Questilly*, Captain of the *Dragon*, struck to it, as well as others; to whom we gave the accusom'd honours, and the Commandant put Monsieur *de Auberwill*, our Lieutenant in his place.

In the mean time the Wind continuing good, we past the *Tropick of Cancer* on the 21st. and except a few days failed very succesfully the rest of the month, and during those few we met with very rough Seas, fomented by violent Storms; but the very thought of approaching *France* made us easy, though we had reason enough to be otherwise; so nothing disturb'd us afterwards, seeing our selves near the end of so many fatigues, and so long and hazardous a Voyage.

The 9th. of *August* the *Rock* hung out *English* Colours, to give us notice that she discover'd a sail which we saw behind us, making all the sail she could to us; we were willing to gratify her curiosity, furl'd our sails, and gave her time enough to come up with us, and after she was near enough to discover our strength, she stood away presently without daring to come any nearer. Monsieur *Duquesne* having hung out *French* colours, which she

she did too, without taking them down, tho' we hung out *English* Colours again.

Next day the *Lyon* was dispatcht to discover Cape *Finister*, who believing she had sight of it, gave us the Signal; but her mistake was very great, and our joy short, for we did not discover it till next day; the *Bird*, who kept the head of the Squadron, having got a clear view of it, we gave God thanks by singing *Te Deum*, the Wind being at *North East*, and therefore contrary, we came within Cannon shot of the Land, tacking till it chang'd, which it did that very evening, and carried us so happily for seven days together, that at last we arrived at the height of our Wishes, that is, within sight of *France*, and came all six to an Anchor under the Island of *Groze*, *Saturday* the eighteenth of *August* 1691, at Nine in the morning: Whence sailing again the 19th. we entered *Fort Lewis* full of joy for our happy return, thanking the Divine Providence who had preserved us through a thousand dangers in this long and painful Voyage, from which we parted from the Island *Groze*, the 27 of *Feb.* 1690.

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THE
VOYAGES
OF THE
Sieur Le MAIRE,
TO THE
CANARY-ISLANDS,

Cape-Verde, Senegal, and Gambia.

I Had been almost three Years em-
ploy'd about the *Hôtel de Dieu* of
Paris; (that is, the Hospital of
God) when I heard that Monsieur
Dancourt was ready to part for *Cape-Verde*, in Quality of Director-General
of the Royal African Company; when
I immediately resolv'd to accompany
him, and he consented to it: and having
agreed on Terms, the 14. of Jan. 1682.

Departure from
Paris.

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he presented me to the Gentlemen of the Company who confirm'd what we had settled.

After imploying a few days in settling my Affairs, and in taking leave of my Friends, we parted for *Orleans*; where we took boat for *Nantes* on the *Loire*: and tho' this Passage is commonly made in two or three days, yet we were seven or eight about it, and that not without Danger too.

The Wind was still contrary, and so violent, that the River was almost as boisterous as the Sea; the Rivers too overflow'd so, that we lost the Channel; so that only discerning the tops of little Trees, all the rest being under Water, we found our selves sometimes fast on the Trunks, like Birds perching on Trees.

At last, however, we arriv'd at *Nantes*, and after ten days stay, we took Horse for *Brest*: what we saw of *Britany* as we past, was not very entertaining; tho' it's known, this Province is good and fruitful in many places; but all along as we past, we had a very unpleasant Prospect.

Being arriv'd at *Brest* the 4th. of *February*, we expected to Sail in a few Days;

CANARY *Islands*, &c.

3

Days; but the Ship was not ready, but ill careen'd, and had not half her Furniture; and we were to wait till she was new masted, and till she was fit to meet with stormy Weather, and the Enemy which we expected.

Two Months were spent in this Work; the Ship was call'd the *St. Catherine*, of four hundred Tun, carrying forty Guns; 'twas built at *Flessingue*, and design'd for a Cruiser; Captain *Monsegue* commanded it by orders of the Company.

The Port of *Brest*, where the Frigate *Brest* lay, is the best we have in the Ocean; the greatest Ships ride there in Safety, and shelter'd from all Weather as in a Chamber; whence 'tis call'd by that Name. Ships may sail out of it at low Water as well as at high; for they always ride afloat. It's as straight at the Mouth as a River, and has two Half-Moons of each side, and on the right a strong Castle, old built, which defends the entrance. This Port goes in a Spiral Line; it's a large half League long, and about two hundred Paces wide: it's situated between two Mountains; which cover it. All these Advantages it receives from Nature.

In this Port I saw the greatest and the beautifulest Ships in the World; amongst others, the Admiral, nam'd the *Royal Sun*; it has not so much gilding as the *Royal Lewis* of *Toulon*, but 'tis better built; longer, and a better Sailer. It carries 120 Guns, and the great Cabine is magnificent, richly gilt, and the Cieling is of the Design *Monsieur le Ponne*: there are about fifteen more but of a lesser size; yet very proper, and beautifully built.

Besides these, there were about fifty more of 90, 80, 70, 60, and 50 Guns, without reckoning smaller Frigats of a lower Rate: next to the *Royal Sun*, are the *Queen*, the *Crown*, the *Glorious*, the *Beautiful*, the *Good*, the *Thunderer*, the *Lightning*, the *Diamond*, &c. These vast Machines give just Wonder, and appear like floating Palaces.

Our Ship being compleatly equip'd, it sail'd out of the *Chamber* into the Road the 20th. of *March*; five of the Kings Ships were fitted out at the same time, of which four were to joyn those of *Toulon*, and the fifth to Convoy some Ships belonging to the *East-India-Company*.

Wednesday

CANARY Islands, &c.

5

Wednesday the 9th of *April* 1682. I embark'd with four Sons of a Family which went with us: as Monsieur *Dancort* continu'd still at *Brest*, these Gentlemen and I diverted our selves a little with Hunting, believing we might as easily go a-shore again as we came aboard: the Director's Cook who came aboard about some business, made use of a little Skiff which was row'd by two Lads, which we us'd to go a-shore in; and were now got 2 Leagues on the Sea near *Cameret*, without minding which way he should get back: we were so earnest taking the Diversion of Hunting, that we did not care where we put a-shore, without minding the Danger we ran, in passing over craggy Rocks hanging over the Sea, into which I had like to fall two or three times. And after all this pains, we had the Disappointment to meet with no Game; we were forc'd to employ our selves in killing Larks, which prov'd afterwards more of use to us then we imagin'd then: tir'd therefore with this sort of Hunting, we past to a better Entertainment, and fell to a Hare-Pasty, which we brought with us, and a Glas of good Wine.

B 3

After

After we had spent our Provisions, we return'd to our little Boat, and were no sooner at Sea again, than a sudden Storm arose, in which I thought we should have perish'd every moment. One of our Gentlemen who was very much fatigu'd, had fall'n asleep as soon as ever he came into the Skiff, and was waken'd by our Noise, and the tossing of the Boat; and when we were half way, tho' he was scarce throughly awake, he was so sensible of the Danger we were in, that he cry'd out, We were certainly lost if we did not return again.

Our little Rowers were almost spent, but not their Courage, who pretended to chear us, saying, There was no Danger of the Boat, tho' she rowl'd so; and if the worst came to the worst, 'twas only swimming for't: but they were mistaken as to me; and besides, the Waves were so great and violent, that instead of landing us, they had dash'd us in pieces against the Rocks.

We follow'd the Counsel of our Companion, and turn'd back again, rowing with all our Might; and at last, with much ado, got a-shore, where we waited for calmer Weather.

In

CANARY Islands, &c.

In the mean time, while we were enjoying our Safety a-shore, we heard a single Gun, and saw at the same time the Top-Sails loose, which is the usual Signal of Sailing: There were several Lighters near us, which might have carry'd us aboard; but we could not prevail with any of the Masters to whom they belong'd, to give us a Cast.

Thus we saw our Ship under Sail, the Admiral saluted with seven Guns, making the best of her way, running before the Wind, with all the Sail she could make; and I was not a little troubled to be left behind thus, and all my Things aboard.

We follow'd the sight of our Vessel, haling her as loud as ever we could bawl, and discharging our Fusteels, but all in vain, the Vessel disappear'd: one of our Companions, who was but an ill Footman, took *Cameret* Road, believing he should find us there; and being in search of him, we spent a good part of the Night in looking after one another.

Many Misfortunes attended us on our way; for ever and anon, one was bogg'd in the Marshes, another would fall into

a Ditch, each calling on the other for help, and all cursing the Chase: Hunger follow'd our other Miseries, when at last we got into an Inn, where every thing was proportionable to our short Purfes; wretched Provision and Beds: however, all that we had was spent that Night, and we were forc'd to depart fasting next Morning.

As we went again in search of our stray'd Companion, and coasting by the Sea, we perceiv'd Masts, which at first we took for high Trees which grew by the Sea, not so much as flattering our selves that we should ever see our Ship again, which we thought had been far enough off; but coming near, we found we had not lost our Passage, for she Anchor'd in *Camaret* Road, three Leagues from *Brest*.

Great was our Joy, and we had now no more to do but to find out our Companion, and go aboard: we endeavour'd by Signals to give notice of us to the Ship, but with no better Success than the Day before; so that the Sloap did not come to fetch us.

As we sought all imaginable ways to get out of our Troubles, we observ'd a
Bark

Bark at Sea plying towards the Ship; I don't know how we came to fancy that he whom we sought might be in it; but we fancy'd right, and he was the first Man we perceiv'd from the Shore; so we made Signs to 'em at a distance, which he understood, and the Bark made towards us: but it being impossible to come near, by reason of the Rocks, 'twas our Business to get aboard as well as we could.

At last we did; and after a great deal of Rejoycing at our Meeting so happily again, we thought of nothing but taking our Rest: but this was not the time; for the Sea was so rough, that the Waves went over the Ship, and we were wet from Head to Foot. This, joyn'd with the excessive Cold, and the Danger we were in of being cast-away, which the Seamen themselves fear'd not a little, cast us into a fresh Concern, till after much Difficulty and Hazard we got aboard.

At our leisure we revolv'd all our past dangers, and presently fell to eating after hard Fasts; we remain'd some time in the Road, waiting for Monsieur *Dancourt*, who was still ashore at *Brest*.

On

On Sunday, at Noon, April the 12th, 1682. he came Aboard, and immediately we Sail'd.

When we were about three Leagues at Sea, we met the Ship Nam'd the *Burning*, which lay at Anchor, waiting the Tide to enter into the Bay of *Brest*; she was mounted with 80 Guns, and came from *Havre*, to take Monsieur *de Preuilly*, Lieutenant-General, Aboard, who was afterwards to Sail to *Algiers*.

We Saluted him in the usual manner, with 7 Guns, and crying out three times *Vive le Roy*; he answer'd us with as many, against the usual custom of the King's Ships, who always return two Guns less; in all probability, he did it in complaisance to Monsieur the Intendant, who was then Aboard him, and who was Monsieur *Dancourt's* Friend.

After thanking him with three, we pursued our way with a North-East Wind, leaving the Cape to the West, Steering West-South-West, where we took the point of our departure, in 48 Degrees 20 Minutes of Southern Latitude, and in the 11th Degree of Longitude; but as I am not very expert in the Art of Navigation, I shall not oblige
my

my self to be thus exact in these sort of Observations, but when it is indispensibly necessary.

Tuesday, the 21th of *April*, we perceiv'd two Ships to the East of us ; by their Steering to get the Weather-gage of us, we judg'd them to be Privateers ; we presently put our selves in a posture of defence, which prevented their making any attempt upon us, believing there was little to be got by us but Ball.

Sunday the 26th, in the Morning, being in 32 Degrees, as many Minutes, of Northern Latitude, and in 4 Degrees 13 Minutes of Eastern Longitude, we saw *Cape-Cantin*, the Coast of *Barbary*, and the Kingdom of *Morocco*, from whence we were only six Leagues distant ; if the Night had lasted we had lost our way, for we Sail'd to the West of the *Maderas*, which is above 140 Leagues thence.

Wednesday the 29th, we perceiv'd the Isle of *Anecerotte*, one of the seven *Canary* Islands ; which we left about ten Leagues to the South-East, where we met with a Calm, and excessive Heat.

Thursday,

Thursday, the 30th of *April*, we found our selves in 28 Degrees 30 Minutes of Southern Latitude, and 4 Minutes of Longitude, taking the first Meridian at the *Ile de Fer*, according to the Custom of our Nation; so that not being above ten Leagues distant to the North-East from the *Great Canary*, we tack'd on this *Ile* till Night, about a League off Land. We could not Anchor by reason of the little Wind that was stirring, and the darkness of the following Night; this oblig'd us to tack about to the East, and to keep out at Sea till Three a Clock in the Morning of the opposite side to the Land.

Great Canary, the Capital of the seven Islands.

Its Situation.

Friday, the 1st of *May*, having tack'd to the West, in the Road of the *Great Canary*, about Nine and a half we Anchor'd in 24 Fathom, and found a Sand that was partly grey and partly red, mix'd with Coral; the Town, with its situation stands on the South-West side, is a League and a half from the Road, and defended by a very ordinary Castle.

When they had given us notice from the top of this Castle, they set up the Pavillion of *Spain*, which we Saluted with five Guns; to which they return'd

not

not a Gun, I suppose 'twas for want of Powder.

There is very good Anchoring in this place, if one don't come too near the Town, to which the Rocks, that lye under Water, render the approach very dangerous; it's defended by a Castle situated on a Mountain, from being attack'd by Sea; it's Peopled by twelve thousand Islanders brave enough, and able to oppose any Invasion; our Ship Anchor'd in 18 Fathom Water before the Town.

Its Strength

It's about a League in compass; the Houses, for the most part, are well enough built, but low; not above two Story; they are all Terras'd a top, so that the Roofs not appearing, one would think they had been burnt. In the day time you scarce see a Man in the Streets.

Its bigness

Tho' the Bishop, the Governor, and the best sort, have their Residence at *Teneriffe*, yet in this Capitol is the Episcopal Seat, the Tribunal of the Inquisition, and the Supream Council, which is the Parliament of the Seven Islands. There are four Monasteries in't, one of *Dominicans*, and one of *Franciscans*; the

Residence of the States and of the Parliament.

two

Religious
Houses.

two other are *Bernardines* and *Recolets*.

The Cana-
ry Islands
formerly
call'd For-
tunate.

Their
Happiness.

These Islands, which were formerly call'd *Fortunate*, deserv'd the Name, if the goodness of the Air, and the richness of the Soil, be consider'd; they abound in Wheat, Barley, Honey, Cows, Sheep, Deer, and all the Necessaries of Life: The Wine of *Malvesia* is in such great plenty there, that the *English*, the *French*, the *Spaniard*, and *Dutch*, &c. furnish themselves thence every Year.

Belief of
the Hea-
thens.

The Happiness of this Place, to be able to subsist independent of all other Countries, for the Necessaries of Life, made the Heathens formerly believe, that 'twas the *Elizium Fields*, design'd for the abode of Happy Souls after Death.

They are not so happy in their Water as in other things, but this they remedy by pouring it into Vessels of the figure of a Mortar, made of a very Porous sort of Stone, through which it filters it self, and afterwards becomes very good.

The Rich-
ness of the
Soil.

Their Harvest is commonly in *March* or *April*; in several places they have two in one Year. The Soil is so exceeding Rich, that I saw a Cherry-Tree that had

had not been Grafted above six Weeks, bear Fruit, Flowers grow of themselves without any Care; and it abounds in Oranges and Cittrons to admiration.

The *Great Canary*, as well as *Teneriffe*, and the *Palme*, continued Idolaters some time after the Conquest made of them by the *Spaniards* in 1460. The *Ancerotte*, *Fort-Avanture*, the *Gomer*, and the *Fer*, first receiv'd Christianity; and the three others at last follow'd their Example. The *Spaniards*, resolving at last to reduce these Islands to their Obedience, sent a great number of the Inhabitants Slaves into *Spain*; they who remained were Civiliz'd, and live after the manner of their Conquerors; and these, above all the other Inhabitants of the *Canaries*, are Civil to Strangers.

Monsieur *Dancourt* was very well receiv'd there by the Governor of the Island, with whom he Din'd, conducted by the Consul of our Nation, Nam'd *Remond*, originally of *Liege*, and a very honest Man; he too Regal'd us very much, both with Wines and Fruits, and continued two days with him, in which he made exceeding much of me.

I was four times at the *Convènt* of the *Bernardines*, the *Provifor* having given me leave at the request of the *Abbeſs*; there were ſome *French Women* there of whom one was of *Paris*, who was my *Interpreter*; there being ſome *Sick* in the *Convènt*, they were very much concern'd leaſt I ſhould take the *Infection*.

The preſence of a *Physician*, made them make uſe of the opportunity; and ſeveral of them pretended to be *Sick* who ail'd nothing, that they might have more liberty. They expreſs'd a great deal of *Civility* to me, and loaded me with *Bisket*, and wet and dry *Comfits*, with *Lemonade*, *Malveſia*, and all manner of *Fruit*, which they ſent me on *Plates*, and *China Diſhes*, garniſh'd with *Roſes*, *Violets*, *Orange-Flowers*, *Jeſſamin-Flowers*, and *Tuberofes*, without reckoning *Noſegays*; and I preſented them too, which they civilly receiv'd.

Leaving this Holy Place, I found ſeveral at the *Conſul's Houſe* who waited for me, to go ſee ſome *Sick*; particularly, ſome from a certain *Civilian*, who was reckon'd worth 50000 *Crowns*, whoſe Wife was ever and anon troubled with

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*How their women are habited and how they
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with a Suffocation of the Matrix. The Doctor of the place manag'd her as for a *Peripneumony*; by which, chiefly, I discover'd his Ignorance.

As they have no great confidence in their own Physicians, they are very glad when they can meet with one of *France*: The Lawyer did all he could to persuade me to stay at the *Great Canary*, offering me his House, his Table, and many other Advantages; but I was resolv'd not to break my Word with Monsieur *Dancourt*, so I thank'd the *Spaniard* for all his kindness, and order'd what I thought was most proper for his Wife, and such things as might be found in the Island, where they are very scarce.

He would have given me Money, which for the Honour of my Nation I refus'd; I thought to have return'd thither again next Morning, he having desir'd the Consul I might, saying he would gratify me in another way, seeing I would not take Money; but I had not time, the Sloop coming to take me Aboard on *Saturday Night*.

I was almost Enchanted with this Island, and with much ado I parted from it; if ever I leave *France* again, it
C *shall*

Extent of
the Great
Canary.

shall be to live in the *Great Canary*. But I can scarce prefer any thing to *France* it self for happiness; but before I leave this Island, I must not forget to tell you, That it's 30 Leagues in compass, and almost round.

Saturday the 2d, towards Evening, the Wind blowing hard at North-North-East, we Sailed, and slackening again about Three a Clock in the Morning, we Steer'd our Course in sight of the *Pic*, a high Mountain of the Island of *Teneriffe*, with a design to Anchor in the Road of *Holy-Cross*; our Pilots observ'd in this Latitude, that the Needle varied to the North-East, three Degrees thirty Minutes.

Sunday the 3d, being to the farthest North of the *Great Canary*, with a scanty Wind at North-North-East, we had the Cape to the West all Night.

Monday the 4th, in the Morning, we arriv'd at *Teneriffe*, the richest of all the *Canary Islands*; in sight of *Holy-Cross*, a little Town on the East Point of the Island. One may Anchor there in 25 or 30 Fathom Water, however we did not Anchor at all, and remain'd ready to Sail again all day, waiting the Sloop that was sent ashore.

Thô

Tho the Governor of *Holy-Cross* permitted those who went in the Sloop to Land, yet he acquainted the Governor-General (whose Residence is at *Laguna*, three Leagues from the Sea) that there was some *French* who desir'd to come ashore to be supply'd with Provisions: The Answer was, To make them Prisoners if they did. Perhaps the reason was, That they were afraid we might have some Aboard that had the Plague, thinking we came from the *Levant*.

The *Pic* is one of the highest Mountains in the World; they say one may see it 40 Leagues off at Sea. As for us, we saw it but 12 or 15, by reason of the Fog, which made it appear to us like a Cloud in the Point of a Diamond; it's always cover'd with Snow, tho it never Snows below, nor ever Freezes.

As for *Teneriffe*, it's reckon'd to be the highest Island in the Ocean, and the best Peopled for its bigness, containing 15000 Inhabitants; it's this which produces that excellent Wine of *Malvesia*, which passes for the best in the World. This Wine is not known in these Islands, but since the *Spaniards* became Masters of it; for they first brought the Plant from

*The Island
of Tene-
riffe.*

Candia; and now they prefer this Wine to that of the Place from whence it derives its Original, and there comes a greater quantity from thence than from *Candia*.

The Situation of the seven Canary Islands.

The Seven *Canary* Islands lye in a Line one by another, almost exactly from East to West; they are very Mountainous, but well Peopled, and very Fertile; the least is 60 Miles in compass.

Remark.

As I had formerly heard speak of a wonderful Tree in the Isle of *Fer*, whose long and narrow Leaves are always green, and supply'd all its Inhabitants with Water, I was willing to inform myself about it; and I ask'd if it was so as I was inform'd; that there falls so great a Dew on this Tree, that dropping afterwards, as a clear Water into Stone Basons, which they set a purpose to receive it; it supplies both all the Men and Beasts of the Island, Providence thus wonderfully supplying the want of fresh Water. They told me 'twas a meer Fiction, yet some there were too, who said, there might be such a Tree in the Island, but that it did not yield such a quantity.

Tuesday

Tuesday the 5th, we continued our Course to the Southward, in 27 Degrees 40 Minutes of Southern Latitude, and in 360 Degrees of Eastern Longitude; about Six in the Evening, the South Point of the *Great Canary* lay East-North-East from us, about 7 Leagues off.

Wednesday the 6th, it blew so hard at East, that we were extremely shatter'd in our Masts and Rigging, and the Main-Mast bow'd so, that we expected it would come by the Board; this Tempest ceas'd a quarter of an hour after, and we enjoy'd a Calm again.

Thursday the 7th, at Noon, being in 23 Degrees of Southern Latitude, and 28 Minutes of East Longitude, we pass'd the Tropick of *Cancer*.

Wednesday the 8th, we approach'd the Coast of *Barbary*, being, at Noon, in 20 Degrees 47 Minutes of South Latitude, the Wind blowing hard at East-North-East; and observing 'twas impossible to gain *Cape Blanc* before Night, and that we were four Leagues from Land, being in 28 Fathom Water, we presently tack'd about, Steering East-South-East. And *Saturday* the 9th, about Eight a Clock in the Morning, we

found our selves within a League of Land.

Cape Blanc. We rang'd the Coast as far as *Cape Blanc*, where we Anchor'd in 14 fathom Water to the North-West, about a League from the Point of the Cape; which is, according to our Elevation, in 20 Degrees 30 Minutes of South Latitude, and 359 Degrees 10 Minutes of West Latitude.

Why it's
call'd Cape
Blanc, or
the Sea of
Sand.

When the *Portuguese* first discover'd this Cape, about the Year 1454. they call'd it *Cape Blanc*, for that being Sandy and Barren, they saw not the least Verdure; it's level like the Sea, whence they call'd it the *Sea of Sand*.

From *Cape Cantin* to this Cape, which comprehends 300 Leagues, one sees nothing but a Sandy Plain, call'd by the Ancients the *Desart of Lybia*, and by the *Arabians* *Zaara*; it's Inhabited only by Wild Beasts, as Lyons, Tygers, Onces, Leopards, and such like Creatures.

These Desarts reach to *Mount Atlas* on the North, and to the Country of the *Negroes* on the South; they are of so vast an extent from East to West, that they can't be pass'd on Horseback in fifty days. By this way, the Caravans of

Fex

Fex pass to *Tombut*, *Melly*, *Borneo*, and the other Kingdoms of the *Negroes*.

When a Storm rises in these Desarts, the Sand Buries Men and Camels, and often the Stuffs, and filling up the Pits by the way, the Passengers Dye with Thirst; as there is no beaten Path there, they make use of the Compass as at Sea.

There's a sort of a Gulf in the very Point of *Cape Blanc*, which takes its Name from the Island which it forms, which is call'd *Arguin*; this Gulf advances above 15 Leagues into the Land, for which reason we lose the sight of it in passing the Point.

The *Portuguese* had a Fort formerly in this Island, from whence they Traffick'd with the *Azoaghes*, *Arabs*, or *Moors*, who exchange with them Gold, Gum-Arabick, Ivory, and Ostridges Feathers, which are in great Plenty there, by reason of the great number of these Birds. 'Tis said of this Creature, that its Memory is so bad, that it forgets where 'thas laid its Eggs, and often treads on them. I can't easily believe what I am told, that one of them will feed eight Men. They bring these Merchandizes

Observation on the Ostridge.

chandizes to *Hoden*, which is four days Journey up Land, and where arrive the Carravans of *Tombut*, *Gualata*, and other places of Inward *Lybia*, and of the *Negroes* Country.

*Manners
and Reli-
gion of the
People.*

These People observe the Law of *Mahomet*; don't stay long in a place, wandering from one place to another along the Desarts, according as they find Pasture for their Horses, Camels, Oxen, Sheep, and Goats; on the Milk of which they live. They are divided by Tribes and Families; they acknowledge no other King but him who surpasses the rest in Riches, and him they willingly Obey as their Captain.

*How they
Traffic.*

Their Traffick with the *Negroes* consists in Horses and Camels; they receive two, six, eight, ten Slaves, for one Horse, but for a Camel only two.

*Fort of
Arguin.*

The Fort of *Arguin* was taken by the *Dutch* from the *Portuguese*, and again taken from them in the War of 1672. by Monsieur *Ducas*, Captain of the Royal Company of *Africa*; he had but 120 Men to this Expedition, and lost but three of them. The Cowardise of the *Dutch* eas'd this Conquest very much, for nothing was more easie than to pre-

vent

vent it; we had but six Guns, of which, the biggest was but an Eight Pounder, nothing defended us; and, with all this, we wanted Water, it being impossible to Drink of that, of one single Well in the Island, which stinks.

This Fort remain'd to us by the Treaty of Nimeguen, as did all the other Places which the Company Occupies; notwithstanding this Treaty, the Dutch send several Ships thither every Year; which is a manifest infraction.

Belongs at present to the French.

The Captain of our Ship Landed there with 30 Men, thinking to have met the Ship call'd the *Town of Hambourgh*, but it was Sail'd away, we found only one Bark in the Dock which was not finish'd, and which we burnt; and another little Vessel, in which were some *Moors* and *Dutch*, who abandoning it, Swam for't. 'Twas found Loaded with Tortoises, which were very welcom to our Men in the Sloop, whose Provisions were all spent; they are very large on this Coast, and very plentiful, one alone will feed 30 Men; they eat like Veal, and are Meat good enough; its Shell may be about 15 Foot round.

Remarks on the Tortoises.

Cape

The Plenty
of Cape-
Blanc.

Cape Blanc abounds in Fish, besides the common Fish, as *Parguese*, *Kielles*, *Gold-Fish*, *Junny*, and *Sea-Dogs*, and others, of whose Names I am ignorant; our Men catch'd some of them, and fed very happily on them for eight days, which we carried on this Coast. As far as the Mouth of the River of *Senegal*, there are some shatter'd Habitations of *Moors*, tho' the Country be very Barren, and scarce any thing lives there but Fish.

1632. *Saturday* the 16th, we continued our Course to *Goree*, and past in sight of the River *Senegal*; of which I shall speak hereafter.

Cape-
Verde.

Tuesday the 19th, we discover'd *Cape-Verde*, being in 14 Degrees 45 Minutes of Southern Latitude North.

Its Disco-
very.

This Cape was thus Nam'd by the *Portuguese*, who discover'd it the same Year as *Cape-Blanc*. They Nam'd it *Cape-Verde*, because the great number of Trees they saw there, of which several are always green. It's high, and yields a pleasant Prospect; on the top are two round Mountains, which, from their resemblance, were call'd *Breasts*. It advances very far out into the Sea, and

and passes for the greatest in the Ocean, after Cape De-Bon-Esperance; there is a great concourse of Tides there, which bear to the Southward.

Its Extent.

Its Situation is ill mark'd in the Card, which places it in 14 Degrees exact, whereas it's in 14 and a half. After doubling the first Point (for there are two) we see a little Island which is uninhabited; it's Nam'd the *Ile of Birds*, by reason of the great numbers seen there at its first Discovery.

Its Situation.

When we had pass'd this Island, we doubled the other Point to discover *Goree*, which lies behind the Cape, almost opposite to the *Breasts*. The Coast runs inward to the North-West in a Creek, where is found the best Water of all this Latitude; which is a great relief to the Ships.

Being arriv'd at *Goree*, *Wednesday* the 20th of *May* 1682. and Anchoring in the Road, we Saluted the Port with seven Guns, which return'd the Salute, Gun for Gun; the first was with Ball, in Honour to Monsieur *Dancourt*; when he went into the Sloop, our Ship saluted him with five Guns, all the Ships in the Road did the same; and when he was Landed,

Landed, the Fort saluted him with seven more.

Monsieur Dancourt finds the Affairs of the Company in an ill State.

After shewing the Letters of the Company, who had made him Director, he took possession of his Employment; he found Affairs in a very ill posture, by the conduct of two Persons, each of them pretending to the chief Command. The one was a *Frenchman*, and Commandant of *Goree* for the Company; and the other their Agent-General along the Coast. But as this is none of my business, I shall meddle no farther.

The Isle of Goree.

The Island of *Goree*, was called so by the *Hollanders*, because it resembled an Island of *Zealand* of the same Name. It's about a quarter of a League in compass, and runs long ways North and South, about a League from the Land; it has, to the South, a Rock sloping of one side, and of the other is wash'd by the Sea. The whole Island, indeed, is surrounded almost by Rocks, which hinders the entrance into it, except a little Creek, by which Vessels may enter.

Discover'd by the Portuguese.

As the *Portugueses* were the first who have made long Voyages on this Coast, 'twas first discover'd by them, as well as all the rest of *Africa*, to the Sea, Ocean, and

and *Atlantick* side; having fallen into the possession of the *Dutch*, they built a Fort on the weakest side of the Mountain, for the Defence of the Island, and of another wretched Fort, which was below, not able to defend it self.

Monsieur the Count *d'Estrees*, Vice-*Monsieur*
Admiral of *France*, in 1678. in the *D'Estrees*
Month of *November*, seiz'd on this Fort, *makes*
which the Governor render'd to him, *himself*
without making any Defence; as they *Master of*
could not spare Men to Garison them, *it.*
they were both raz'd. Messieurs of the
Company, who Govern the Island at
present, have a little re-establish'd that
below, by Buildings, which serve them
for Magazines, and by the raising an
ordinary Wall on the Ruins of the Old
Fort, only to avoid being insulted by
the Negroes.

Monsieur *Dancourt* presently employ'd
himself in promoting the Trade, visiting
the Counters establish'd along the Coasts,
and in giving Orders to the Commissa-
ries; and afterwards, in seeking the
Amity of the Negro Kings and Chiefs.

To this end, he began to visit the
Country up and down for a matter of
fourscore Leagues; that is, from the
Mouth

Mouth of the *Senegal*, to that of the River *Gambia*; which are the two Mouths of the River *Niger*. I accompany'd him in all his Journeys along the Coasts, when I inform'd my self of all that concerns the Country, of their Religion, Manners, and Customs of the *Africans* of *Cape-Verde*.

We began the 6th of *December* with *Senegal*, whither we could not go by Sea, because of a North Wind that was just contrary to us; notwithstanding the Affairs of that place requiring the presence of *Monsieur Dancourt*, because of the Death of the Governor, which happen'd a little before, he resolv'd to go thither by Land, and to send the *Fame*, a Ship commanded by Captain *D'Overe*, as well to carry Merchandise, as to bring back those which were exchange'd.

Observation on the way.

It's easie to pass from *Senegal* to *Goree*, but not to go thither; and this Ship having a contrary Wind, spent a Month in her passage, which was but 40 Leagues in a straight Line; but she was forc'd to Work and Tack, which made it 500. We gave her for lost, when we, at last, happily saw her arriv'd in the Road.

Our

Our Journey by Land was not so tedious, but that 'twas still more painful, for the Road furnishes Passengers with no sort of Necessaries; no, not so much as Carriage. And in the whole Town of *Rufis*, which is but three Leagues from hence, we could find but one Horse for Monsieur *Dancourt*, and six Asses; two of which carry'd our Provisions.

Tho' 'twas now *December*, yet the heat was excessive, which was very painful to us; and we Travell'd from Sunrise to Sun-set, only stopping a little at Noon, when we rested a while under a Tree, to Eat of some little Provision we had brought with us. At Night we lay in some Town, where we found Necessaries neither for our selves, nor Mill for our Beasts, tho' it be the ordinary Food of the *Negroes*, who live often only on Roots for the want of Grain.

The great
scarcity
here-
abouts.

Our Hosts receiv'd us after their best manner, but their extream Poverty made their best but indifferent. Their Houses are made of Straw, as are those of their very Kings; tho' in some places they are more commodious than in others. The first are about four foot Diameter, the Roof is a sort of Dome, the outside of which

Negroes
Houses.

which is Straw, and the inside Palms, the whole handsomly work'd; the Dome, or Roof, is supported by five or six Forks; the Wall is of Palm or Straw, neatly wove together.

The Negroes love Smoak.

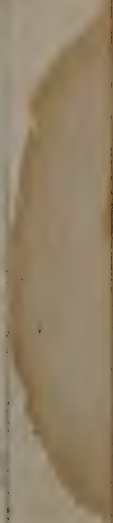
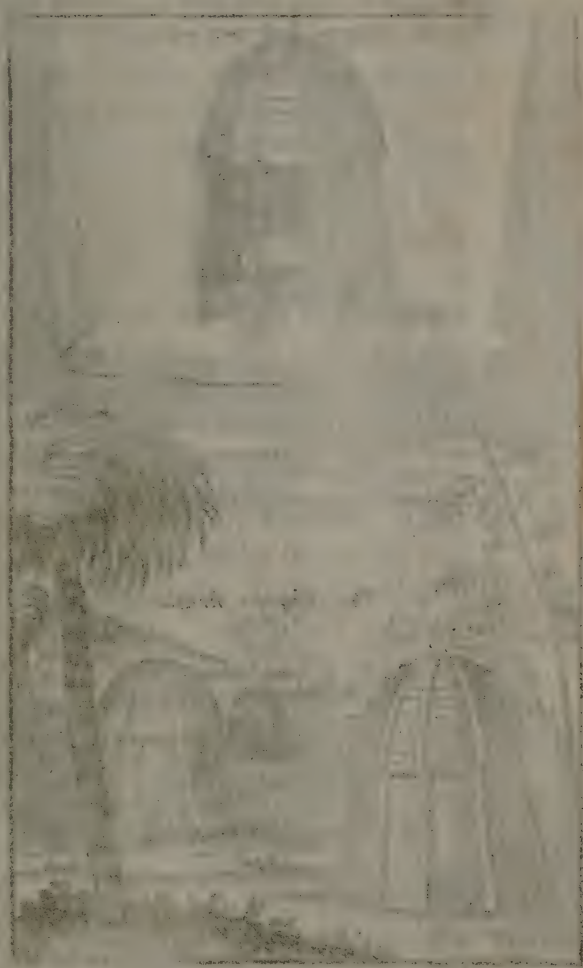
They have neither Doors nor Windows to their Houses, only a little hole like the Mouth of an Oven, so that one must creep on all four to enter into them; though the heat must needs be excessive in such a place, yet they make fires in them, which are always accompany'd with a great Smoak. This inconveniency pleases them, for they love Smoak: Their Floor is Sand, into which you sometimes sink up to the mid Leg.

They have some Houses, the passage into which is so very little, that one would wonder how they could go in or out. I remember one day, a pretty tall Gentleman and I having lain in one of them, tho' he crept like a Serpent, yet could not get out, and was forc'd to lyethere, one half out and t'other half in, not able to stir backward or forward. I endeavour'd to help him, but to no purpose, not daring to cut the Wall, was forc'd to call for help.

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How the Negros beds are made



The Negros houses



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Their Beds are yet less commodious ^{Their} than their Houses ; they are made of a ^{Beds.} great many Sticks about two inches thick, set at two fingers distance one from the other, joyn'd together by a Rope almost like a Hurdle ; thick twist- ed Sticks (as is all their Wood) fills be- twixt every two, and seem only plac'd to break one's sides. These Beds, as well as the Roofs of their Houses, are supported by Forks ; and thus they lye on them without any more to do, only the better sort have a Mat, which serves them for a Quilt.

From what I have said, it's easie to conclude, That if this Country suffers not its Inhabitants to be happy by rea- son of its Barrenness, they themselves ^{Their} too contribute to their Misery by their ^{Sloth.} Sloth.

But to return to our Journey, which this digression has interrupted : After six days fatigue, we came to a Town call'd *Bieure*, which stands at the Mouth ^{Bieure.} of the River of *Senegal*. As there are as many Customs as Countries, we observ'd that in this, the Men concern themselves with nothing, 'tis the Women who ma- ^{The Wo-} nage all the Traffick ; who, under pre- ^{men only} ^{manage} ^{the Trade.} tence

tence of carrying the Merchandise, held a dishonest correspondence with our Seamen.

*St. Lewis's
Island.*

*Its Situa-
tion.*

*Com-
merce.*

We left our Beasts in this place, and Monsieur *Dancourt* sent from thence to the Habitation, to send us a Vessel to carry us the other five Leagues, which yet remain'd, to the Island of *St. Lewis*; where we arriv'd two hours after Midnight.

This Island, situated in the middle of the River, five Leagues above the Mouth of it, is about a League in compass. Messieurs of the Company have their Magazines there, and a Commandant and Commissaries. It's thither the *Negroes* bring their Skins, Ivory, Slaves, and sometimes Ambergreese; as for Gum-Arabick, it's brought to us by the *Moors*, as I shall say hereafter.

They give in Exchange to the *Negroes*, Linnen, Cotton, Copper, Tin, Iron, *Aqua-Vitæ*, and some Glass Trifles; the Profit deriv'd from this Commerce, is Eight Hundred for One. The Skins, and Ivory, and Gum, are carried to *France*; the Slaves are sent to the *American* Islands, to make Sugar.

The

The best are bought for ten Pieces
 frank, and sold again for a hundred
 Crowns. For five or six Pots of *Aqua-
 Vita*, one may have a good lusty Slave;
 so that they are bought cheaper than
 they are Transported, for their Trans-
 portation is very chargeable.

*Traffick of
 Slaves.*

The River of *Senegal* is a branch of the
Niger, coming out of this River about
 600 Leagues above the Mouth of it, and
 runs through the Kingdom of *Cantorfi*, and
 thence divides it self into several bran-
 ches; of which, the chief are *Gambia*,
 and *Riorgande*; of the last of which, I
 am wholly ignorant.

*The River
 of Senegal.*

The *Senegal* separates the *Azoagbes*,
Moors or *Bazanez*, from the *Blacks*; so
 that of one side of the River are *Moors*,
 rather white than black; and of the
 other, Men perfectly black. The first
 have no certain Abode, but wander from
 place to place, Camping where they find
 Pasture for their Cattel; whereas the se-
 cond, that is, the *Negroes*, are fix'd,
 and have their certain Towns and Ha-
 bitations.

*Different
 Manners
 of the
 People.*

The first are free, and acknowledge
 no Superior or Head, but whom they
 please; the last have Kings, who Ty-

*Their different Geni-
us.*

ranize over them, and make them Slaves. The *Moors* are little, meagre, and of a bad mien, and a crafty subtle Genius; the *Negroes*, of the contrary, are tall, thick, and well proportion'd, but dull and stupid. The Country Inhabited by the *Moors*, is a sandy waste, wherein no green thing is to be seen; but that of the *Negroes*, is rich in Pasture and Mill, and abounds with Trees ever green, but scarce bear any Fruit that's fit to Eat.

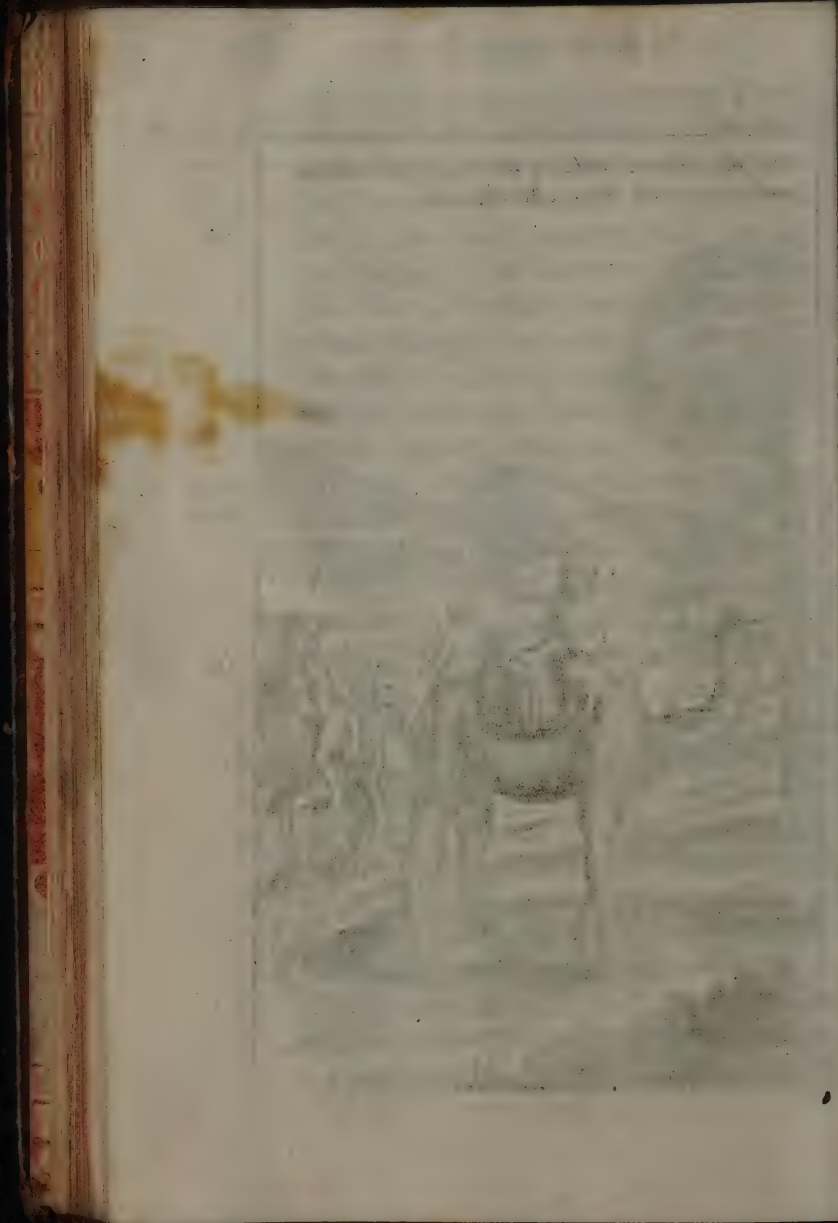
Gum-Arabick.

From these *Moors* we have the Gum-Arabick, they gather it in the Desarts of the *Inward Lybia*; it grows on the Trees as that that's gather'd from Cherry and Plumb-Trees; they come to sell it about a Month or six Weeks before the overflow of the *Niger*.

They give them in Exchange, Blue Cloth, Linnen of the same colour, and a little Iron; they'll come a matter of five or six hundred Leagues to sell a half Quintal of Gum, and some farther. They ride quite naked on their Camels, Horses, and Oxen, on which they often bring their Merchandise. The most considerable amongst them, wear a sort of a Cloak made of Furr Skins; the rest have only

*Now the Mores ride on their Camells Horses
and Oxen with their Merchandise.*





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CANARY Islands, &c. 37

only a wretched piece of a Skin that covers their nakedness. They all live on Milk, in which they dissolve some Gum. *Food of the Moors.*

'Tis the Custom, partly, to subsist them when they come to Traffick; and to this end, to buy their Oxen of them, but they must Slaughter 'um themselves, or they wont touch them; and they have some amongst them appointed for this Work. Yet, tho' they abound themselves in Cattel, they seldom eat of 'em, except when likely to dye of Distempers or Age.

'Tis an incredible trouble to Trade with them; for in all their Dealings they are either insolent or false. The Traffick being manag'd on the River, they can't play their Tricks so easily, for they Embark the Merchandise as they receive it from them. It's manag'd in the Months of *May* and *June*, thirty Leagues above the Factory. *They are great Cheats.*

When all is over, they put a thousand affronts on you; when they catch a *Frenchman*, or any other White, they'll kill him to revenge a Quarrel of twenty Years past. About two Months ago, they took a Mariner that understood *Their Insolence.*

D ; Arabick ;

Arabick, whom one of the Captains of the Company had sent to *Arguin*, and demanded no less than fifty Slaves in Exchange for him.

They dread
Fire-
Arms.

Never was Nation more false and perfidious; they are very dextrous in the use of Fire-Arms, the effect of which they dread to that degree, that three Whites, one day, hinder'd 400 of them from seizing a Vessel with which these came to Traffick, a shot that fell amongst them having frightned them from the Execution of their design.

'Twas understood afterwards, that the greatest part of them were *Moors* of the side of *Mount Atlas*, who came to Depose *Cheiratick*, one of the most Powerful *Negro* Princes of these Countries; and of which I shall speak hereafter. They retire into the Inland Parts as soon as ever the *Niger* begins to overflow.

The Kingdom of
Senegal is
very in-
considera-
ble.

Its Ex-
tent.

The Kingdom of *Senegal* was the chief of the *Negroes* Countries, and was formerly very considerable; at present it is not so, tho' they have a King truly Brave, for, through want of Strength, he is become Tributary to another. Its Power extends along the Water-side, the space of 40 Leagues, without reckoning some

some little Seigniories near, which are Tributary to it, and about ten or twelve Leagues up the Land.

This King is call'd *Brac*, which is a *Brac*.

Name of Dignity ; Absolute as he is, he he is exceeding miserable, often wanting Mill to Eat. He is so delighted with Horses, that for the most part he'll content himself with a Pipe of *Tabaco*, and a little *Aqua-Vitæ*, to spare the Mill to his Horses ; he uses them in Plundering the weakest of his Neighbours, and driving away their Oxen, in which their Riches consist ; and sometimes makes them Slaves, and sells them for *Aqua-Vitæ*.

*Character
of the
King of
Senegal.*

When it grows low, he shuts up what is left in a Coffer, and gives the Key of it to one of his Favourites, whom he sends thirty Leagues off, on some trifling Message to his Wives, that he mayn't drink in the mean time ; and so makes it last as long as he can.

*How he
spares his
Aqua-
Vitæ.*

But whatever he does by his Neighbours, he makes his Subjects feel him, running up and down his own Country, remaining two days in one Town, three in another, obliging them to maintain himself and his whole Train, which is

*How he
Tyrannizes
over his
Subjects.*

compos'd of about 200 subtle Fellows, refin'd by their Conversation with the Whites, from whom they only learn what's bad. When they have ruin'd the Villages, they make Slaves of whom they please on the least pretence.

The Treachery of his Subjects in selling one another.

But if the Prince is Perfidious, his Subjects are no less, for they'll sell one another without regard to Proximity of Blood or Relation; so that the Father shall sell his Son, and the Son his Father and Mother, as it happens. When they have such a design on any Person, they will desire his help to carry their Merchandise to the Factory, and when they have them there they sell them privately, and deliver them when they don't understand the Language.

A particular instance of this kind.

Behold an Example of this kind, which happened some time ago, and confirms what I have said. One of these *Barbarians* had form'd a design against his own Son to sell him, the Son perceiv'd it, but dissembled the matter; understanding the French Tongue, while his Father was absent a little, he comes to the Magazine, declares he had a Slave, treats, and agrees for the Price, and delivers him up. This pretended Slave

was

was his Father, who, when he was going to be Iron'd, rages, and cries out, He was his own Son who offer'd to sell him; the other denies, and marches off.

But his guilt was not long a punishing; for returning home with his Goods, he meets a chief Lord, who stript him of all he had, made him a Slave, and sold him to the Factory.

After the States of *Brac*, we meet *Cheyra-*
those of *Cheyra-* tick. that is to say, the
thrice great, the Emperor. On this
last depend ten little Kings, and other
little Sovereigns; his Empire extends it
self of both sides of the River *Senegal*, Extent of
and contains near 300 Leagues of Coun- his Em-
try. His Lands bear Dates and Mill; and pire.
yield good Pasture, in which great num-
bers of Beasts are nourish'd. His People
are call'd *Foules*, they are not black, nor
so white as the Moors, but are of a mid-
dle colour.

They are more Civiliz'd than the
other *Negroes*, and receive strangers
very kindly; and when any of our Ma-
riners are ill us'd by their Captains, as
it often happens, they run to *Cheyra-*
for shelter, who receives them very
kindly.

His

His Food.

His ordinary Food is Mill, Beef, and Dates, and drinks Milk, and never any Wine or *Aqua-Vitæ*, observing the Law of *Mahomet* more exactly than the other *Negroes*. He is able to bring 50000 Men into the Field, but for want of Provisions can't subsist there long.

*The Coun-
tries of the
Fargotts
and the
Enguel-
lands.*

Passing beyond the States of *Cheyra-tick*, you come to the Countries of the *Faregotts* and *Enguelland*, 3000 Leagues from our Habitation, we Traffick too with them; they differ in nothing from the *Foules*. As I didn't go any higher, my knowledge is bounded here, and I know nothing beyond it.

*Concourse
of the Ri-
ver Senc-
gal.*

After this River has roll'd from *Can-torfi*, and divers great Islands, it casts it self into the Sea by two openings, in 15 Degrees 32 Minutes of South Latitude. Between the Sea and the River, there is a sort of Dike, or Hill of Sand, which in the widest part is not above a little Cannon-shot; this obstacle occasions continuing its Course for six Leagues, before it rolls into the Sea, tho' their Waters run even. But as at length this Dike is pierc'd in two places, three Leagues distant one from the other, through them, and it loses it self, at last, in the

the Sea ; between which an Island is form'd.

At each of these Mouths, several Banks of Sand are gather'd, which the River drives down, and the Sea drives back, and makes a very dangerous passage for Shipping. The continual motion of the Sea finding a resistance from these Banks, causes it to rise to an incredible height, and strands or shatters the Ships to pieces ; and then there is no escape for the Equipage, for if they Swim for't, the *Requiem*s are sure to devour them ; else this passage is not dangerous, but when the Tides are low, and not then when the *Niger* overflows.

That which is singular in its Inundations is, That they still force new Passages through the Dike into the Sea ; it's about twenty Years since, that it forc'd a passage over against that Island which is the Habitation of the French ; they were oblig'd to remove up higher. This Mouth is stop't now, making its passage in other places ; and they so fill one another up, that none ever remain but the two last.

Several *European* Nations Traded formerly to this River ; at present none but the *French*.

Having

Sort of
Fish.

Particu-
lar of the
overflow of
the *Niger*.

Having spoken several times of the Inundations of the *Niger*, it will be proper to observe when, and how this happens; yet without insisting on Physical Causes, if happily they may be discover'd by particular Circumstances. Behold such as have appear'd to me.

When, and how the overflow of the Niger happens.

The Heats are excessive in the *Torrid Zone*, for it does not Rain there at all, or, at most, but very little, unless in the Months of *July, August, and September*. To the South of the Equinoctial Line, the Rains fall earlier, and in greater abundance, during that time, and are accompanied with raging Storms, and follow'd with so great a Calm, and such excessive Heats, that it's as much as one can do to fetch ones breath. Two or three hours after, the Tempest rallies, and so alternately during the three Months. This causes violent Distempers, Fevers, *Choloræ-Morbus*, Ulcers in the Legs, Worms of four or five Foot long in the extremities, and frequent Convulsions, follow'd by Paralyfes and Death.

All that's said of the Causes of the Inundation of the River *Nile*, is well known

known of all, and therefore I shall not repeat it here. That of the *Niger* must have the same Cause, which I believe is, That the Sun in repassing the Line of *Cancer*, which in *France* makes the Summer Solstice, and here the Winter, amasses the Vapours, which dissolve afterwards in heavy and continual Rains; and, probably, cause these overflowings. *The Cause.*

These Rains commence in *Æthiopia*, in *April*, continue *May* and *June*. Here 'tis about the 15th of *July*, they encrease for forty days, and decrease for as many. This Inundation, which enriches the Country, is not general, nor extends beyond the Neighbourhood of the River. At this time, the Bed of the River is not known; its Channel neither being deep enough to contain its Waters; nor having Current enough to sweep them into the Sea, they drown'd the Valleys and the lower Grounds, and cover all.

'Tis dangerous at these times to Sail on these Rivers, and chiefly on the River of *Senegal*, unless you understand the Channel very well; for when the Waters come to retire, a Vessel may be left on

on an Eminence, or in a deep place, from whence it can't be drawn out.

An at-
tempt to
Sail from
Senegal to
Gambia.

It's about 15 Years since a thing happen'd that confirms the truth of what I say : Messieurs of the Company, willing to take the advantage of the Inundation, sent Barks to discover the Country, about the place of the separation of these Arms of the *Niger* ; they were willing to try if it was practicable to pass from the River of *Senegal* to that of *Gambia* ; the Trade of which, the *English*, who are Masters of the Mouth of it, hinder others from, by the means of a Fort which they have there. And as there is no attempting this Discovery but at this time, when, by the advantage of the Inundation, you pass over Rocks that are dry at other times, they Mann'd their Barks with 30 Men, who pass'd almost 400 Leagues from our Habitation, but they encounter'd so many difficulties, that but five return'd ; having once lost the Bed of the River, their Bark, amongst others, sat dry on some Trees, but happily, 'twas not far from the Chanel ; so they made a shift to hale it into it again.

After

After Monsieur *Dancourt* had dispatch'd in these Quarters, what he judg'd was most for the advantage of the Company, finding the *Barbure*; or Entrance, was free to pass, by reason of a gentle Easterly gale that blew then, he pass'd it in a Bark design'd for that use, which put us Aboard the Ship call'd the *Fame*, which waited for us in the Road, being willing to avoid the fatigue of a Land Journey.

The 10th of June 1683. we weigh'd 1683. Anchor, and Sall'd for *Goree*; we Coast-ed it all along, and the prospect was very Charming, of long extended Groves of Trees ever green. After he had run along all the Coast, and given his Orders in all the Coutoirs, we return'd to our Course which we had held, and spent eight days in coming back. Mark what I have observ'd of these places in the little time I was there.

The People who Inhabit the Coast, *What People they are who Inhabit the Coast from the Mouth of the Senegal, as far as Gambia.* from the Mouth of the *Senegal* to the River of *Gambia*, are divided into three, namely, the *Geloffes*, the *Severes*, and the *Barbessins*; they are Govern'd by several little Kinglings, but very Absolute in their several Governments. The most confide-

considerable of them all, is the King of *Amel*, Sovereign of the *Geloffes*; the Name of *Amel* is not appropriated to him, 'tis a Name of Dignity. As all their Governments are much alike, (as are the People, and the Country) I shall by an Account of this one, give you an Account of all the rest.

The Geloffes.

The *Geloffes* Inhabit from the Mouth of *Senegal*, going South, within six or seven Leagues of *Cape-Verde*; this makes from North to South 40 Leagues of Coast, and from East to West 100 up the Land.

The Sereres.

The Country of the *Sereres* has for its King him whom we Name *Portugady*, from a Town of that Name, which belongs to him. *Jain* is the Name of his Dignity, it includes ten or twelve Leagues of Coast, and almost 100 up the Country.

The Barbecins.

The Kingdom of the *Barbecins*, otherwise of *Jovialle*, (for the same reason I alledg'd concerning that of *Sereres*) is Govern'd by a King whose Name I have forgot; he has no more Country, than the precedent, with whom he is often at War.

Besides

Besides these three Nations, there is another, who are a sort of *Portuguese*; a Nation who name themselves so, because they were formerly subject to them, and are descended from those who first inhabited this Coast, after the discovery of it. From the *Negresses*, whom they married, were born the *Mulato's*, from whom are descended a more swarthy Race: They may also be Fugitives too of *Cape-Verd*, or *Cacheau*, another Colony of this Nation, on one of the Branches of the River of *Gambia*, distant thence three days journey. As they have followed the Religion of their old Masters, they are partly *Jews* and partly *Catholicks*; they wear a Cope like our Chaunters. No one is greater than another, but at the same time they are false and malicious, having all the Vices of the *Portugueses*, without any of their Vertues.

Almost all these Places are sandy and barren; the Heats are more violent there in *January*, than in *July* and *August* in *France*. It Rains there in the manner as I have said already, speaking of *Sevegal*.

*Nature of
the Soil.*

At what
time they
Cultivate
their
Grounds.

The Country is Peopled, and abounds with Trees : They begin to Cultivate their Grounds at the end of *June*, and sow a little after the Rains ; they gather in their Harvest in *September* ; so that in three Months time they manure, sow, and reap. This shews the good nature of the Soil, and if better improv'd by the Inhabitants, who are very lazy, that it would produce Grain in abundance : I mean, their Mill.

How they
Cultivate
their
Grounds.

Their manner of Cultivating is pleasant, they go four or five together into the Field, which they call *Cougan*, or *Courgar*, and with a sort of a round Shovel of Iron with a Wood head, they break up the Earth, which they cast before them, not entring the Sword of the Ground above three or four Fingers deep, still with the Pipe in their Mouthes, and talking two Hours for one they work. And when the Ground is thus cultivated, they sow it as they do Pease in *France*, without taking care to lay up any Grain ; and are so excessive careless, that they don't gather half what's necessary for them, and then they live on a black insipid Root which they dry, and on another call'd *Gernot*, that tastes like

The little
Care they
take to
live.

CANARY *Islands*, &c.

51

like a Hazel Nut: If their Harvest chances to fail, they die of hunger.

'Tis not above five Years since such a thing happen'd, seduc'd by the Promises of a *Marabou*, the Name of their Priests. He was of those *Azooges*, or *Arabs*, of whom I have spoken: Under a pretence of Religion, he made himself Master of the whole Country, from *Chegratick* to the *Sereres*; telling them he was rais'd up by Heaven to scourge the Tyranny of their Kings; he offer'd to prove his Mission by Miracles, and particularly by that of making their Grounds bring fourth more abundantly, and that without any Labour of theirs.

A Cheat of one of their Priests, or Marabou.

Their Laziness was sufficiently charm'd with such a Promise, they all side with this Impostor, particularly those of the Kingdom of *Damel*; their King was depos'd, and their Neighbours plunder'd in this Revolt. They liv'd still in hopes of the Miracle, and past two Years expecting it, but to no purpose, so that they eat one another for want of Food, and were oblig'd to give themselves up for Slaves: Time at last disabus'd them, and they drove away

It causes a Revolt.

the Tyrant and Impostor, and *Damel* was restor'd. They entertain no *Mara-boufe* ever since ; and if they catch any, they make them Slaves.

Besides, they have white and black Beans very like French Beans, and Melons full of an insipid Water. They make use of Corn in making their *Couscouse*, as they call in *Arabick* ; or *Laguerre*, in their own Language, which is their most common Food. The Fruit which we call *Bananes*, and in the *Canaries*, the Apple of *Adam*, is common amongst them ; they rear Oxen , and Cows, and Goats ; and he who has the largest Stock is the most esteemed of. Their Beeves are no larger than a Calf of eight or nine Months in *France*. I believe the drought is the cause ; for along the River of *Senegal*, they are as large as in *Europe*.

In what
their
Riches con-
sists.

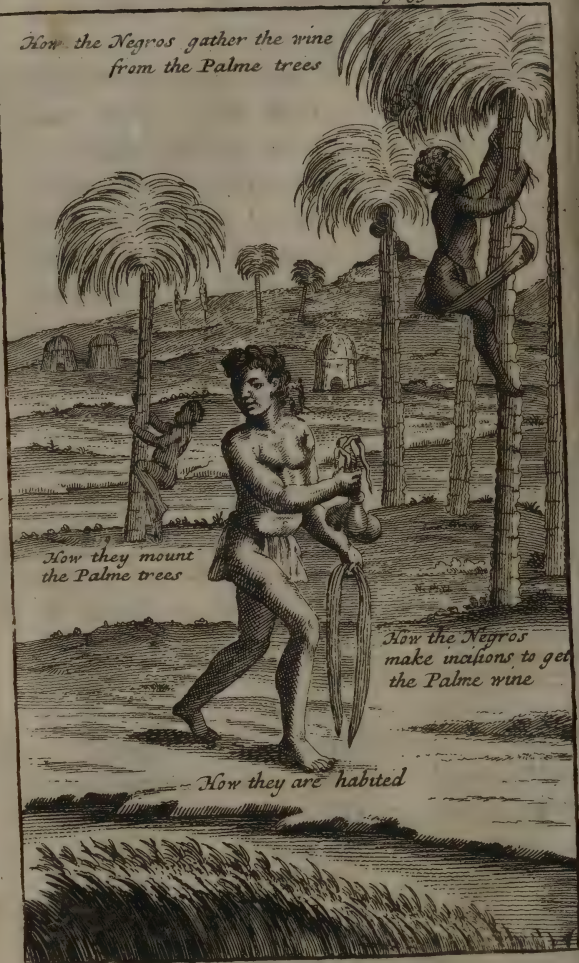
How many
sorts of
Palm-
trees.

There's great numbers of Palm-Trees, of which I have observed three sorts ; one is like the Date-Tree ; the second like that which you may have seen in *France* ; and the third is a sort of *Latiner* ; as to that which bears the *Coco*, there's none of it here.

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*How the Negros gather the wine
from the Palme trees*



*How they mount
the Palme trees*

*How the Negros
make incisions to get
the Palme wine*

How they are habited

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Through the Incisions which the Negroes make in the Palm-trees, there distils a Liquor of a Pearl Colour, which is call'd Palm-Wine; 'tis sweet and pleasant to drink the first day, but it will intoxicate; and afterwards it loses its sweetness, sowering every day more and more; tho' the older it is, it still the more affects the Head. One of these Trees may yield about three Pints of this Liquor. They commonly regal Strangers with it, and the most considerable Persons are never without it: this same Tree produces a sort of little Coco's, from which they draw the Punick Oil, of the smell of Violets, of the taste of Olives, and the colour of Saffron. It enters into the Composition of *Musselin Oil*, and *Alexandrin Nicolas*. These Trees pay Custom to the *Alzair*, or Lord of the Town.

*How they
get the
Wine out
of the
Palm-trees.*

As the Palm is high and without Branches, and that it's necessary to make Incisions in two or three places below the leafy tuft, (which is the glory of the Tree,) they climb up after this manner; they have a sort of a Hoop made of Brass, which may be ty'd or loosen'd

*Their way
of mount-
ing them.*

as one will, into which they enter; they as 'twere sit upon't, and placing their Feet against the Tree, supported behind by this Hoop, as firmly as if they were on the Ground, they reach the top, make their Incisions, and fasten the Bales to receive the Liquor which distils; 'twould frighten one almost to see them so high, and supported by so slight a thing.

Of the several sorts of Animals there,

All along the Coast, there is a prodigious variety of Animals, of which I don't pretend to describe all the several sorts, being little vers'd in this sort of Learning; I shall only speak of those I know, of which one may see a great number in *Etiope*, by the care which divers Princes have taken to have them transported; as they are seen there in their natural wildness, before they are tam'd; what I am about to say of them, will perhaps give a more particular Idea of them.

The Places where they are commonly seen.

The greatest numbers of these fierce Creatures are seen about Ponds and Pits which the Rains have fill'd; Morning and Evening they come thither in droves, as do the tamer sorts: There you may see Elephants, Lions, Tigers, Leopards,

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pards, Onces, Wolves, Tiger-Cats, Civit-Cats, Foxes, wild Goats, &c.

That which is remark'd of the Elephant is, that he is not to be attack'd ^{of the Elephant.} in a place where he may freely turn himself, else he throws all down with his Trunk, and treads them to death. I don't know at what time the Female brings forth her young, but she has often three at a time: He lives on Grass and Leaves, which he conveys to his Mouth with his trunk; they often pass the Night in Towns, and so little fear frequented Places, that instead of avoiding the *Negroes* Houses, they'll go directly to them, and toss them out of their way like Nutshells.

The Lion seeks his Prey with Art, he never sets directly upon't, but fetches ^{of the Lion.} a compass, creeping along on the Ground; and when he is within reach leaps upon't; he is so mild and manageable when young, that we have had of them as tame and familiar as Dogs.

The *Tiger* is more fierce than the *Lion*, ^{The Tiger.} and is much of the same heighth and length with the *Greyhound*, he sets indifferently on Men or Beasts; the

Negroes kill a great many of them with their Zagaies and their Arrows to get their Skins, but tho' wounded near so much, they still defend themselves, and seldom fail of *killing some* before they fall.

The Leopard.

The *Leopard* is fierce and active; unless he meets a Man in a narrow place where he can't avoid him, he won't set upon him; but if does, he flies upon him, fastens his talions in his Face; and tears away as much Flesh as they can grasp, and so kills him. He is a mortal Enemy of Dogs, and devours them where-ever he meets them.

The Once.

The *Once*, which is said to be fiercer than the *Tiger*, is in my Opinion the same Species, or at least that which we call a *Panther*; his Skin is more beautiful than a *Tiger's*, tho' he is spotted alike.

The Tiger-Cat.

The *Tiger-Cat* is so nam'd by reason of his white and black Spots. He is shap'd like our Cats, only four times as big; he is of a devouring nature, and eats *Apes*, *Rats*, and other Animals.

The Civit-Cat.

The *Civit-Cat* has the Head and Snout of a *Fox*; he is large and spotted like the other, and very wild; every two days they take the *Civit* from him, which

which is a certain Muscosity, or clammy Sweat which he has under his Tail in a hollow place.

I have seen no *Rinoceros's*, tho' there are some here.

There are several sorts of *Apes*, as the *Munky*, with a long tail, and the *Baboon*, who has none at all: I have not seen of this last sort; as for the first they abound every where: Of these there are three sorts, of which two are very low, and do little mischief. Of this little sort, there are some they call Weepers, having a lamentable sort of a cry. Of the other sort, there are some almost as big as *Munkeys*, not only their Hands and Feet resemble a Man's, but their very Actions; so that the *Negroes* say of them, that they can speak if they will, but that they won't for fear of being forc'd to work. They know that we take delight in them, tho' they are so mischievous; which I believe gave occasion to the *Negroes* of *Senegal*, to bring us Rats in Cages; as if we took delight in none but mischievous Creatures, saying, that as our Humour resembled theirs, 'twas not much to be wonder'd that we lov'd them.

Apes, how many sorts.

Thoughts of the Negroes.

'Tis

*Their waste
and cunning.*

'Tis incredible what waste they make when the Mill and other Grain which they live on is ripe; they assemble 40 or 50 together, and then go to the *Cougan*; one of them stands Centry on a *Tree* out of the Field, and hearkens and looks about on all sides, while the others are gathering the Harvest; as soon as ever he perceives any one, he cries out as loud as ever he can, to give notice to the rest; who presently at the Signal, fly with their Prey, leaping from one *Tree* to another with strange Agility; the Female, which carries her young ones against her Belly, leaps too as the rest, and as if she carried nothing.

*Deer in
abundance
here.*

They eat a great deal of Venefon here, and Boars are common; but have no taste like ours, and their Flesh is white like Pork. The Wild-Goat, the Kid, and the Hare are found here in great store.

The Stag.

I have seen none here like those in *France*; but some others, who have Horns like the Capriorn; on the Mountains in *Swisserland*, only they are strait.

A great many sorts of Birds are seen here, that are not known in *Europe*, of which a great many live only on Fish; among the rest, there is one nam'd the *Great Throat*, it's twice as big as a Swan, having a Beak of a Cubit long, and a Skin hanging below, that makes the Throat look like a Sack. It swallows whole Fishes as big as ordinary Carps. The Cormorants and the Vultures are the same as in *Europe*; of the last there are some as big as Eagles, that devour young Children when they can meet 'em alone.

*Several
sorts of
Birds.*

I have seen strange Birds, and of such various Colours, as I am not able to describe: the *Nightingals* don't sing there so agreeably as in *Europe*.

*Nightin-
gals.*

I have already spoke of the *Ostridge*, of which some are of a prodigious size; those that fly are delicate Meat, and several Parts of them are of several tastes; they are as thick as a Swan, their Feathers grey and black. The wild Geese are very good; but the Teal above all, are of incomparable relish. On the River *Senegal* the grey exceed the rest in goodness.

The

The Partridge perches on the *Trees* there like other Birds ; as do the Hens which the *Portuguese* call *Pintades* : these Hens are speckled white and grey, having a little red Crest above the Ears ; they are larger than ours ; and I look upon them to be a sort of a Partridge.

Parrots.

The Parrots there are of two sorts, the one little, and all green ; the other bigger, have a grey Head, a yellow Belly, green Wings, and the Back partly yellow, partly grey : these never talk, but the small ones have a sweet clear voice, & learn whatever they are taught.

Observation on the industrious Care of a little Bird.

Of all these several sorts of Birds, I have seen none so industrious and careful, as a certain little one that builds his Nest in the Palm-tree after a singular manner, and by a marvellous instinct, secures it from the Serpents that creep up the Trees ; they build at the very extremity of the slightest Branch, to which they fasten a Stalk of a Rush or Straw, the strongest they are able to carry, and about a Foot and a half long, and at the end which hangs down in the Air they build their Nests, leaving an Entrance at the top a little of one side : It looks like a

Ball

CANARY *Islands*, &c.

61

Ball hanging in the Air. The Branch to which it is fastned is so weak, that it can bear nothing that would approach to hurt it, and so they are out of fear.

The Sea is very Fishy all along the Coast, and almost all sorts are there; of which the most devouring have broad and long teeth, in two or three several rows; those which they most commonly eat are *Parquese*, the *Gold-Fish*, *Vieiles*, *Tunny*, *Mullet* and *Racoas*, of the shap^e of a *Salmon*, *Negers*, *Sales*, *Sardes*, and a multitude of *Sardines*, that fill the Sea at certain times.

The abundance of Fish.

The *Requiem*, the Monster of the Sea, that's shap'd like a Sea-Dog, is in length from three or four Foot to eight: She parts with her Young alive, and has the Matrix like our Dogs, and the rest like a Fish: this is the most dangerous of all, and eats whatever comes in its way; it's dangerous swimming near the Place where they are, for there's no scaping.

The Requiem.

The *Murfouin*, or Sea-Pig, is of the bigness of the *Requiem*, and good to eat; it won't meddle with Man: It has Far, but of an ill taste; its Ribs and Entrails

Marfouin or Sea-Pig.

trails are like those of a Hog, except that they have two Stomachs, the one at the end of the Osophage, the other adhering to one side, almost as big as the first; and to this last there is a little opening, which performs the Communication from one to the other: It's fill'd with little Cells, like those in the Wax before the Honey is separated from it; the *Duodenum*, if I remember right; has its rise in this last; I had not time to examine it thorowly, because the Seamen had quite mangled it.

The
Whales.

The *Whales*, as vast as they are in length and thickness, so that they are often as big as a Vessel of 26 tun, yet don't overset any Ships, as is commonly reported of them, unless it be little Barks or Sloops.

Souffleur.

The *Souffleur* almost like a *Whale*, but much less, casts Water like it, but threw one Passage only, which is above his Snout, whereas the other has two there.

Observati-
on on a
Fish.

There is another, the Name of which I don't know, that has a Bone four Foot long in his upper Jaw, travers'd on the sides with others that are less, but

but very sharp, rang'd like the Steps of a Ladder within, which he uses to catch others withal.

There is one which the Sea-men call *Spronton*, that has a great Bone in the same place that the precedent has, with this difference from the other, that it's strait, and sharp pointed; I believe it's the same with that which we call *Narval*: This Bone of which I speak, resembles the pretended Horn of the fabled *Unicorn*: He can pierce a Ship with it, so as it shall take in Water, if it does not happen, that in drawing the Bone out again he breaks it; in which case he stops the Hole he has made.

The Narval.

The *Succer*, so call'd from his fastening himself, as he is of the bigness of a *Soal*; when he fastens himself to the Helm he retards the Ship, but does not stop it, as is falsely reported of the *Remora*.

The Succer

The *Amphibies* are not common on these Coasts, nor are the *Crocodile*, the *Sea-Horse*, the *Sea-Calf*, the *Lemantine*, or the *Tortoise* often seen here, unless at the Mouth of the River of *Senegal* and *Gambia*.

In

In the Marshes and Ponds are found little *Crocodiles* of about five Foot, of which some are Venomous, and some not. There are some that are perfect Serpents; they retire thither where there are most Ants, because these little Creatures make them a sort of Forts, in raising from space to space little Hills of Earth, of ten, fifteen, and twenty Foot high, hollow below like an Oven, and so dispos'd, that at a distance one would fancy them to be a Village.

The Cro-
codiles of
Gambia.

In *Gambia* there are *Crocodiles* of thirty Foot long, and thick in proportion, so as that they'll swallow a Buck whole; they are very dangerous; their Tail is as long as all the rest of their Body; their Skin is so hard, that a Zagage will scarce pierce it. There are some of them that live on Fish, and others that devour Men; and in order to surprize them, they'll keep themselves at some distance in the places frequented, and when they get near those who swim, or are in Cannoos, or come near large Oxen swimming, they clasp them with their Tails, and eat them; they move only the upper Jaw, the

lower

lower not stirring; they do little mischief out of the Water; when the *Negroes* kill them they eat them; they leave their Eggs on the Land, and cover them with Sand; as soon as they are hatch'd they return into the Waters, or the Woods.

The *Sea-Horse*, such as is seen in the *Niger*, is as big as an Ass, and is shap'd like a Horse; his Skin is as hard, and without Hair; he lives on the Land as well as in the Water, out of which he does not go but to feed. He ruins the Mill and Rice, for he destroys ten times more than he eats; he is dangerous to the *Negroes* Canoos, which he is apt to overturn, yet without hurting the Men; he has two great Teeth that serve the same use that Ivory does.

The *Sea-Ox*, that lives on the Land as well as in the Water, resembles a Calf of six Months old.

There are more *Lamantin's* in the River of *Senegal* than in that of *Gambia*: he is like the *Marsovin* for Bigness, for Flesh, and Fat. When he is out of the Water he makes use of his Fins instead of Feet. This is all the knowledge I could get of this kind. I

F

now

Lamantin,
a sort of
Fish.

now proceed to speak of the Manners and Genius of the *Negroes*.

Character
of the Ne-
groes.

The *Negroes* are all well made, and proportionably tall: You see none lame nor crooked amongst them, unless by accident; they are stupid and without address, even in the least things; great Lyars, but greater Thieves; thievery is the only thing they are dextrous in, and are such Masters at it, that they'll steal from us before our Faces, without our perceiving them, drawing with one Foot to them, what they would be at, and taking it up behind.

Their de-
ceit in
Traffick.

When any Mountaineers (for so they call those who live up Land) come to traffick with us, there is no sort of Cheat which the *Negroes* of the Coast don't put upon 'em; for under the pretence of helping them to carry their Goods, and serving them as Interpreters, they retain half from them of what we pay them, as though they had a real Interest in the Goods.

The severity with which their Kings punish those who steal in the Night, and such as are taken in the Fact, can't cure them of this Distemper, notwithstanding the greatness of it; which is

no

no less than to be Slaves to those whom they have robb'd.

*They have
no fear of
Punish-
ment.*

Whoever's oblig'd to make use of the *Negroes* for Interpreters, are very unhappy, and expos'd to all their Knavery; they scarce interpret a word honestly, and in the sence 'tis spoke, and always contrive it to our disadvantage; which often makes our Markets litigious.

*How Knavish they
are.*

They are every way insupportable, but chiefly when they think themselves necessary in any Affair: their Intemperance is excessive, still swallowing *Aqua Vitæ*, for Palm-Wine is not plentiful enough amongst them to be always at hand. Their Drunkenness is accompanied with a total depravation of Reason, and a furious Brutality.

*They are
trouble-
some, in-
temperate,
and brutal.*

They don't know what belongs to Restitution, and have no shadow of Civility: their Ignorance is so great as not to know that twice two makes four, or their Age, or the Day of the Week; for which they have no Names.

*Their Ig-
norance.*

Their *Maraboux*, who have some little tincture of *Arabick*, write their *Griz-Griz* in that Tongue: I shall explain this Word hereafter.

Their good
Quality.

These People have but one good Quality, which is Hospitality; for they wont let a Stranger of their Nation pass without making him eat and drink, and that sometimes for several Days. Having a mighty value for their *Aqua-Vitæ*, when they would drink of it, they do it privately, and out of the sight of their Guest, that they mayn't be oblig'd to give them share; they make the Mountaneers pay for their Hospitality towards them, by cheating them of the *Aqua-Vitæ* they receive in exchange for their Goods, and generally send them away with half what they brought.

Their Poverty.

They are all extreamly poor, having no other Riches but a few Oxen, the richest may have forty or fifty, or three or four Horses, with as many Slaves; but they are extraordinary, when they have any Bracelets of Gold, to the value perhaps of eleven or twelve Pistols each.

Though

Tho' they have neither Wit nor Sense, *Their great love of Praise.* they love Praise to that degree, that they have a sort of People call'd *Guiriotz*, who have nothing else to do but to perform this Piece of Service; the *Guiriotz* carry a sort of a Drum, of four or five Foot long, made of the trunk of a hollow'd *Tree*, which they beat with their Hands or with small Sticks; they have *Timbrels* too of the *Morisco* Fashion, which resemble our Ball Baskets, crost with little Strings, which they touch with one Hand, while they strike with the other.

I observ'd they made use of another *Their Instruments.* Instrument that is sufficiently harmonious, if they knew how to play on't; it sounds like a Harp, and consists of a Range of several Calebasses or Strings of different sizes, rank'd under stops, and dispos'd in a tuneable order, like those of the Harpsicord.

I have seen another of their Instruments *Another Instrument* that would be proper in the Chamber of a sick Person: It's a sort of a Lute, made of a piece of hollow'd Wood, cover'd with Leather, with two or three Strings of Hair. It's cover'd

on the Stops with little Plates of Iron, and adorn'd with little Bells like a *Tabor*.

The Guiriot's, whose Employment is to sing Praises.

The *Guiriot's* tune these several Instruments to their own wretched Voices, and so sing the Panigericks of the most considerable Persons: Which commonly run thus; that they are great Lords, Rich, Powerful as the *Whites*, who are the chief Slaves of the King; and a great deal of this kind of stuff.

Their Revenge if not rewarded.

These are transported with these Praises, and recompense them largely; nay, they go so far as to strip themselves of their very Cloaths to reward them for them, tho' ne'er so groundless and extravagant. And indeed, when they don't reward these Fellows, they are for taking their Revenge, crying them down again, and vilifying them up and down as much as they had extoll'd them before; which is look'd upon as the greatest Affront imaginable.

'Tis their highest Honour to have their Praises sung by the King's *Guiriot*, and he is sure to be well rewarded for't, for they'll give him no less perhaps than

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*Now their Lords and considerable persons are
accouterd*



than two or three Bullocks; and, in a word, the best part of what they have.

These *Guiriots* employ themselves sometimes in singing our Praises too, but they find but little Encouragement for't; leaving the *Negroes* to enjoy and pay for this sort of Happiness: they praise us in these terms, that we are Great, Rich, and Lords of the Sea.

The Habit of the *Blacks* is very plain, the Poor have only a Cotton Rag, about half a quarter of a Yard wide, to cover their Nakedness: It's fasten'd with a String that serves them for a Girdle; they let the two Ends of the Cloath hang down behind and before, which they reckon very Honourable, and a great Ornament.

The Lords and considerable Persons are better habited, they have a Cotton Frock made like the *Cordelier's* Robes, with long and large Sleeves; they are not platted in the Neck, having only a hole for the Head to pass through, like the Shirts of the *Europeans*; they wear them of all Colours, some Blue, some Yellow, some Fillimot, &c.

The Habit of the Blacks.

Habit of the most considerable.

Since these Jackets reach but half way down the Thigh, they wear withal a sort of Breeches of the same, which reach from the Waist to the Knee: these Breeches are so large, that they take up no less than five Ells of Linnen; they resemble a Womans Petticoat that is gather'd at the bottom, and in which only two holes were left on the sides to put the Legs through; the largest are the most fashionable.

They wear on their Heads a sort of Bonnets that are straight at the Entrance, but wide at the other End; almost like the Cowls of the *Capuchins* of the *Jacobins*. The common Sort go bare-foot, but the People of Quality wear Sandals made of a piece of Leather beneath, in the form of a Sole, and fastned at top with a thong, which ties them to the Foot, like the Sandals of the Ancients.

Their Hair, though short, is very well platted; they set it out with *Gris-Gris's* of Silver, Leather, Coral, Copper, &c. They wear Rings at their Ears of Tin, Silver, and Copper; but they

who

who are of the Race of Slaves, are not allow'd to wear their Hair.

The Girls and Women are naked from the Waist upwards, unless the cold obliges them to wrap themselves up; they cover the other part of their Body with a Paigne; that is, a Cotton Cloth strip'd after their Fashion, and of the bigness of a little Towel that reaches down to the mid-leg: their Hair too is tress'd and set out with Coral and other little Ornaments: their Coifs make a topping on their Heads of half a Foot high: the higher they are, the more they are esteem'd.

How the Women and Maids are habited.

The Girls and Boys go quite naked to the Age of eleven or twelve. The Women and Men adorn their Arms and Legs with Corral, and Bracelets of Gold, Silver, Tin, and Copper, according to their Ability.

The Boyes and Girls go quite naked.

The Cotton with which these People Cloath themselves, would be very plentiful amongst them, if they bestow'd that Pains, on't which they should; but they content themselves with what's just enough, and sometimes with less: the Women spin the Cotten, and the Men

Men make the Cloth, which is not above five Fingers breadth in the Piece, for want of necessary Utensils to make it wider; for otherwise they are as good Weavers as in *France*; but forced to join ten or twelve Pieces together, to have a Paigne of an Ell wide.

*Their Food
call'd Sanglet
and
Coscouse.*

Mill is the ordinary Food of the Western *Negroes*; the Women who make it ready, make *Sanglet* or *Coscouse* of it: Which are their terms to signify two sorts of Meats.

*How the
Women
prepare the
Sanglet.*

They begin at break of Day to make their *Sanglets*, for it requires full six Hours to make it; they go two or three together to prepare it, pound it in wooden Mortars that are high and deep, not having any Mills for that purpose: When Mill has quitted its Husk, they winnow it with Fans made of Palm-Leaves, to separate it from the Chaff: then they boil it with Milk, or Butter, or a Bouillon of Flesh, or dry'd Fish, or with Water.

The

The *Cofcoufe*, which is their best Vi-
 ctuals, is made too of Mill beaten very
 fine, which they fan as before; when
 it's clean, they put a little into a very
 narrow Bowl, and sprinkle a little Wa-
 ter on't; after which they knead and
 turn it, then sprinkle a little more Wa-
 ter, then knead it again, which they
 repeat till they have reduc'd this Mass
 into little Balls; afterwards they dry
 them, and then put them into an Ear-
 then Pot full of holes, on another in
 which they boil Meat season'd with
 Spice and Palm Oil: this *Ragou* is ve-
 ry fine well prepar'd, and the Sand
 well dress'd out, which is feldome
 done.

*How they
 make the
 Cofcoufe.*

When they go to War, they carry a
 little Sack of a Foot long, and the
 thickness of one's Arm, full of *Cofcoufe*
 thus dress'd. As the Women dress it
 every day, they take no small Pains.
 And if the Wives of *Europe* were to
 take the same Care of their Husbands,
 they would think they were very hard-
 ly us'd.

*Their Pro-
 vision for
 the War.*

They drink Palm-Wine, which is not
 very plentiful, and stinking Water of
 the Pits; and often of the Salt-Water

*Their
 Drink.*

of

of the Sea, where it has strain'd through; they drink Milk too when they have it.

As Ambition is a Vice or a Passion unknown to those People, they little mind the building of Cities, or Castles, or Houses of State and Grandeur; nor have they Materials for the doing of it, if they take the Pains: they live but in Villages, where the Houses are such as I have already describ'd, which differ according to the Quality and Ability of the Person. They who live near the Palm-trees inhabit in the best, tho' they too have neither Windows nor Doors.

*They have
several
Houses.*

The House of a great Lord shall consist sometimes of thirty Pavillions, which they call *Combettes*, and sometimes of forty or fifty: An ordinary Persons shan't have above two or three: the King's has above a hundred, tho' cover'd with Straw like the rest.

*Houses of
the Great.*

Those of Persons of Quality are enclos'd with Palisades of Straw or Thorns, supported from space to space with Stakes; the *Combettes* communicate all one within another, by ways dispos'd in the form of a Labyrinth:
Round

Round the House, according to the capacity of the Owner, are seen beautiful *Trees*, but in another Order than Nature has plac'd them.

The Palace of King *Damel* exceeds *The House of King Damel.* all the rest; before you come to the Gate of the Palafades, which makes the first Inclosure; you see a spacious Field, where his Horses are manag'd, of which he has no great Number: Without, by the side of this Palafade, are the Apartments of the great Lords. From this Place you go into the Palace by a large Avery, it is adorn'd with a great number of *Trees*, which we call'd *Calbassiers*, because their Fruit resembles a *Calbasse*.

Persons who are employ'd nearest the King, have their Apartments by the side of this Avenue; and their nearness to, or distance from the Combette Royal, shews their Degree. Each of their Apartments being also inclos'd with Palafades, you must pass a great many Courts before you come to the King's; few Persons daring go into his Apartment.

*The Apartments
of the
Kings
Wives.*

All his Wives have their distinct Lodgings, and each five or six Slaves to wait on them. The King may lie with which he pleases, without creating a Jealousie in any of them: there is one commonly whom he loves above all the rest; and when ever he is weary of her, he sends her to some Village with her Slaves, and gives her sufficient Lands for her maintenance; to her succeeds another. Of thirty which he keeps one half are in the Country.

*The Religion
of the
Negroes.*

The *Negroes* from this Coast to *Gambia*, observe the Law of *Mahomet*; but in the Parts towards *Siera, Liona*, and the Golden Coast, they have for the most part no Religion at all; or, at least, worship the first Thing they meet in a Morning. Formerly they were Idolaters, worshipping the Devil, to whom they sacrificed *Bullocks*; and tho' they eat Flesh, yet they believe a transmigration of Souls.

*Their Pa-
gan Opini-
ons.*

And there are some of them who would not have certain *Lizards* kill'd, that run about their Houses, saying, It's the Soul of their Fathers or their Mo-

Mothers, that come to make merrery with them; which they call *Folgar*.

They derive their Religion from the *Arabian Azoughes*, of whom I have already told you, the ordinary People have very little, as having but small knowledge of it; the great ones are more Religious, having commonly a Moorish *Maraboux* to live with them, who have a great Ascendant over them: they say their *Sala* or Prayers three times a Day, Morning at Sun-rise, about Noon, and in the Evening, some in the Afternoon; the ordinary People pray little, nor do not trouble themselves with the building of *Mosques*.

From whom they derive their Religion.

At what times they say their daily Prayers.

The King and the Grandees have *Mosques*; they are cover'd with Straw like their other Houses. They first stand a long while in them, looking towards the Sun-rising, then they advance two steps forwards, muttering some words to themselves; then prostrate themselves all along on the Ground, with their Faces to the Earth; to raise themselves on their Knees, make a Circle round them on the Ground, and

Mosques of the King and the great Ones.

Their Exercises and Ceremonies in their Mosques.

and twice or thrice about their Heads: they afterwards kiss the Earth at several bowings, putting Sand on their Foreheads with both their Hands; and repeat the same Ceremony again for the space of half an Hour.

Their ridiculous Prayers.

One prays that he may have no Enemies, but such as he may be able to defeat; that their Deity would do them no harm; another, that he would give them handsome Wives, and plenty of Mill, and so forth. Nothing being able to divert them while they are at Prayers; nay, tho' they saw their very Houses a fire.

They believe Predestination.

They believe Predestination, and when any Misery befalls them, they say it comes from their God; so that if one *Negro* is kill'd by another, he says, that their God has kill'd him: Yet for all that, they seize the Homicide if they can, and cause him to be sold for a Slave.

Their Superstition.

They are so Superstitious, that they imagine, the having a certain Spells about them, they cannot be touch'd by any wild Beasts that approach them; and while they are thus defended by

In-

Inchantment, they believe nothing can cause their Death nor draw them into Misfortunes.

They have a certain Character, which they call *Gris-Gris*: they are Billets, the Characters of which are *Arabick*, intermix'd with *Necromantick* Figures, which the *Maraboux* sell them. Some, as they imagine, preserve them from being wounded, enable them to swim well, and procure them good success in Fishing; others to have a good many Wives and Children: to prevent their being made Captives; and for whatever they love or fear.

Their
Gris-Gris,
or Relicks.

They have so strong a Confidence in them, that there are some of them that would stand the shot of an Arrow without fear: they are cuirass'd with them, having them on all parts of their Bodies, that often a *Zagaye* will scarce enter them. The great Lords above all others, have their Vests and Bonnets cover'd with them, and are so loaded with them, that they are often forc'd to take Horse, as not being able to go a foot: they likewise put some of them on their Horses to make them the

Their Con-
fidence in
them.

G

more

more lively, and hinder them from being wounded.

*How they
are made.*

These *Gris-Gris's* are lapt up in Linen, handsomly folded, and cover'd above with red Leather neatly drest: there are some not above an Inch thick, work'd with the point of a Diamond; of which they make Necklaces, into which the *Maraboux* often put nothing at all, as I have found upon opening of some our Slaves had: they have of them before and behind over-against their Stomachs, large ones, and about two Inches thick: they make some of them of a Horses Tail, or the Horns of a Deer, or a wild Bull, cover'd with red Cloth; they set two of these last on the forepart of their Caps: thus equipp'd they have a horrible Air, and exceeding fierce, and engage one another with the utmost Confidence in their Combats, but not in those with us, and against our Muskets; so that 'tis a saying amongst them, That there is no *Gris-Gris* against the *Poufe*; for they call the Musket so.

The

The *Maraboux* ruine them with these *Gris-Gris's*; for there are some of them that cost them three Slaves; others four or five Oxen, according to the Vertue they ascribe to them. The Opinion the *Negroes* have of these *Gris-Gris*, has made some of our ignorant *French* believe there are a great many Conjurers amongst them; there are certain times when these pretended Sorcerers make a thousand Grimaces, singing and roaring: as they say, when the Devil beats them.

When they think any Person is insulted by the Devil, if it be a Woman, they put her into Men's Apparel, with a Zagage in her Hands, and leads her singing with a dismal Voice; and by this Ceremony they believe they drive him away. I have often observed that these suppos'd Sorcerers are mere Cheats; for when we take a Cudgel and beat the possess'd Person, we find it has the same Effect, and that the Devil returns no more.

During their *Ramadan*, which is the *Lent* of *Mahomet*, and which lasts the whole Month of *September*, they use the Ceremony of Circumcision, which

Ramadan,
or Lent.

they don't perform till the Child's eleven or twelve Year old : a *Maraboux* cuts the Foreskin, which the Person Circumcis'd eats; who must not complain what-ever Pain he feels, whilst 'tis a cutting; nay, they often laugh while they are searing them, with a red-hot Iron to stop the Blood.

*Folgar, or
their Feasts
of Joy.*

As long as the *Ramadan* lasts they have their *Folgar*, or Feasts of Joy every Night; but, during the whole Day, they neither eat, nor drink, nor so much as smook; nay, some of them won't even spit; but, when once the Sun is set, they make a vast noise with their Drums, and continue eating and drinking till Sun-rise.

*Their Inclination to
many
Wives.*

Tho' according to the *Alcoran* 'tis not lawful to have above four Wives, yet they take as many as they can maintain. As soon as they meet with a young Woman they like, they demand her of her Father; if he Consents to it, they agree on the Price; her Quality or Beauty raises her value. Her Dowry are so many Oxen, which turns to the Profit of the Father; which never exceeds five. This

Agree-

Agreement ended, they bed without any more Ceremony. If they give her for a Maid, they lay a white Cloth on the Bed in which they are to lie, on which, if Blood be found, she is allow'd to have been a Virgin.

Then they produce this Cloth publicly in the Village, accompany'd with several *Guiriot's*, who sing the Praises of the Woman, and the Happiness of the Husband. But, if she proves otherwise than she was given for, the Father is oblig'd to take her again, if the Husband requires it, and to restore him his Oxen. But this rarely happens; for by an unlawful knowledge before Marriage, they are assur'd what she is: But, if she is return'd again, she is not the more despis'd; for, tho' she be not a Wife for one, yet she may be a Concubine for another; so the Father still gets more and more by her: So by this accursed Gain, he might as innocently murder his Daughter. If afterwards the Husband grows weary of his Wife, he puts her away, and is quit of her, losing his Dowry: And she may part from him too, restoring her Oxen.

*Ceremony
on this oc-
casion.*

When the King would gratifie any great Lord, he gives him one of his Wives; but he can't turn her off, tho' the King may take her again when he pleases.

The Funerals of the Negroes.

The Funerals of the *Negroes* are perform'd with great State and Ceremony. A *Marabou* washes the Corpse of the Dead, and adorns it with the finest Calicoe he had in his life. All the Relations and Neighbours come to bewail him, and ask him a great many ridiculous Questions; If he was not well with them? What harm they did him? If he had not Riches enough? If he had not handsom Wives enough? and the like: And, seeing he makes no Answer, they depart, and make room for others, who repeat the same Questions, while the *Guiriots* incessantly sing his Praises.

And because 'tis the Custom to make much of all those who come to compliment the Dead, they kill Oxen, and sell his Slaves, that they may have *Aqua-Vitæ* to be merry withal. When the Assistants are well satisfied, they bury the Dead in the House where he died,

died, of which they open the Dome. Afterwards, when the Corpse is in the Ground, the Mourners re-double their Cries, and four Persons making a Square, with four Callicoes which they hold, hide him so as he can't be seen.

The *Marabou* comes afterwards, and speaks some Words in the Ears of the Dead, and covers him with a Calico; and afterwards they put the Dome in its place; on which they hang some Clothes, white, red, or any other Colour they fanſie. Hard by they ſet up a Pole, on which they hang the Bow, the Quiver, and the Zagages of the deſunct. They ſet him a Pot of *Cofcouſe*, and another of Water, which is his Provision for one Year; for they fanſie he eats after he is dead.

In ſome Places they compaſs the Houſe with Thorns, or a deep Ditch, to ſecure the Corpſe from wild Beaſts; who, notwithstanding, ſometimes devour it. This being finiſh'd, the Mourners ſtill continue their Cries eight Days longer.

When it's a Boy that's dead, the Women and the Maids sing, and the Boys run with all their force one at another, with their naked Sabres in their Hands, clashing as they meet, and striking one another's Sabres; with a great many other Actions, that would be tedious to mention.

*Of their
Artisans.*

The *Negroes* have few *Artisans* amongst them, the most common are Smiths, Weavers, and Potters; the first make Knives, Slaves Fetters, and Bracelets of Gold, Silver, Copper, and Iron, and Ornaments for Knives and Sabres, and covers for *Gris-Gris's*, and the Handles of their Sabres. They have no Farriers, because they never shoe their Horses.

*Their way
at the
Forge.*

When they are at the Forge, they are always two or three together, under the shadow of a tree, sitting on the side of the Forge, the Pipe in their Mouths. They use so little Fire at it, that you could scarce boil an Egg over it; they light it with a Bellows made of two Skins, which they press to make it blow, and resembles a Bladder fill'd with Wind. Their Anvil is almost like

like the Stone which the Mower makes use of to sharpen his Scythe with; when they beat upon it, 'tis so sunk in the Sand at the third or fourth blow, that they must raise it again, which spends most of their time, to little purpose.

Their Weavers are little employ'd, *Their Kitchen Utensils.* wearing but few Cloaths, as I have already said.

The Potters make but one sort of Pots; the greater of which serve for Kettles, and the lesser for Pipes; the bowl of which only is made of Clay, the shank of it being a little hollow Stick, fastned to the earthen Head.

They are generally idle, and spend most of their time in unnecessary Discourse; and if Necessaries be wanting, they are not much concern'd, but rub on, unless they go and live on a Neighbour.

The management of the House gives the Wife very little trouble, except it be the eating part; for the Kitchen Furniture of the greatest Lords consists only of some Earthen Pots, a few Wooden Vessels, and Calkasses half broken

broken, which they make use of instead of Cups.

*How their
Children
are Nurs'd.*

Their Children, tho' young, don't incumber them much, for they leave them naked on the Sand, where they creep all day long: those who are very young indeed, they carry always on their Backs, with their Legs against their Sides, drawing their Feet before, and binding them behind with a Callico Cloth, with which they gird themselves withal.

Whatever they are a doing their little Ones are always ty'd up behind them, even when they are pounding their Mill; whence 'tis, that they have all great Bellies and flat Noses, for the Mother bowing and raising her Body as she beats, makes them strike their Noses against her Back; which the Children endeavouring to avoid (which notwithstanding they hardly can) holding themselves back, they advance their Bellies: I believe this is the only Reason that the *Negroes* are flat Nos'd.

They

They value Beauty as much as we, and particularly in the Eyes, Mouth, Lips, and Nose: Allowing for their blackness, there are *Negresses* as handsome as any of our *European Ladies*. And are more witty than the Men, but very subtil, and smooth tongu'd. The Caresses of white Men please them wonderfully. But, in the mean time, these Dames being very Mercenary, they will not grant them Favours for nothing, although their Husbands consent to their Debaucheries.

But 'tis not so amongst one another; for if one lies with another's Wife, they will kill him if they can with their Sabres, or their Knives; or, if it be with their Concubines, they will have their Revenge.

The Women are always smoaking; *How the Women dance and sing.* they are very merry, and above all things love Dancing in the Evenings, and at the New Moons: They dance in a-round, clapping their Hands without stirring, except it be those in the middle, and sing the first thing that comes into their Mouth's, Sense or Nonsense. These last in dancing hold one Hand

Hand on their Heads, and the other behind, advancing the upper part of their Bodies, and clapping their Feet on the Earth: their Postures are lascivious and infamous, and chiefly when Boys dance with them; a Cablasse or a Kettle serves them for Musick; for some sort of Noise they must have.

The Exercises of the Men.

The Men exercise themselves in Wrestling, and in approaching one another use ridiculous Postures; in holding out the Finger, the Fist, or the Foot at one another. On this Occasion there is always one who acts the *Guiriot*, and who makes some sort of Musick to encourage them. Being naked, they hardly come to the Ground without being hurt. And when one receives a fall, the *Guiriot* extols him who gives it, encouraging him to more Victories over his Adversary, who flees from him.

Their Fishing.

The greatest part who live by the Water-side are Fishers; they train up their Children early to this Art; and make use of Canoo's; they are little Boats, made of the hollow Trunk of a Tree, and all of a piece; of which the largest

Their Canoo's.

largest may contain ten or twelve Men, being about 30 Foot long, and about a Foot and a half wide. These Canoo's both sail and row. When the Wind is high, and the Water rough, the Canoo often overturns, but they little mind it, for they are good swimmers, & it does not sink to the bottom, so they easily set it right again in the Water, and then get into it as if nothing had happen'd: But row in them with such speed, that the lightest of our Sloops can't overtake them.

When they go a Fishing, commonly *Their way of Fishing.* they don't go above two in a Canoo. They launch out as good as six Leagues into the Sea, and for the most part fish with a Line; but as there are great Fishes which won't bite at a Bait, they strike them with Irons pointed like the Head of an Arrow, or with long Sticks sharpned at the end, and of the length of a Halp-Pike, with a Cord fasten'd to it, with which they draw them to Land, after wounding them.

They

Their neglect to preserve their Fish.

They dry the little Fish like Sardines, and they open the great ones, as they do Cod. As they don't salt them, they commonly stink before they dry; but 'tis then they reckon them most delicious, for they don't love fresh Fish. They sell it to those who live up-land, and would from them make great advantage of it, if they'd take the Pains of carrying it to the Towns; but the others being as lazy to fetch it, as they are to carry it, betwixt them both the Fish stinks, and becomes useless.

Their Markets.

Besides their Trade with us, they keep particular Markets for themselves, but trivial, that I have admir'd to see them come six or seven Leagues with a little Cotton, some Callicoës, Beans, Gourds, Palm, Pallets, &c. Another time I saw a Man come six Leagues to bring a Bar of Iron half of a Foot long.

Not but that sometimes one meets there with Goods of greater value, as Rings of Gold, and Gold Ear-Rings, nam'd by them *Dougaret*, of the same Metal, but it's in so small a quantity, that in the whole Market you shan't find

find to the value of fifty Pistols. Formerly they dealt wholly by the way of exchanging one thing for another, but since their Commerce with the *Europeans*, instead of Money, they Trade with Rasseade, and little Glass Baubles, and Iron Bars. The best Things they bring us in these Markets, (which they keep at the end of some Town) is Elephants Teeth, Bullocks Hides, and some Slaves, which they come to *Goree* to sell; and for which Messieurs of the Company give them Iron, *Aqua-Vitæ*, Rasseade, &c. by which they make a considerable Gain.

The Government there is Heredita-
 ry and Monarchical, yet 'tis not the
 Sons of the King who succeed, but his
 Nephews, his Sisters Sons. This Cu-
 stom, which may seem a little odd, is
 grounded on this Reason, That 'tis not
 certain that the Children the Prince
 has by his Wives are really his; where-
 as it being undeniable, that the Chil-
 dren of his Sisters are certainly hers;
 and so it follows, that they are rather
 of the Blood Royal than his own.

*Their Go-
 vernment
 Heredita-
 ry.*

When

When the Prince comes to the Throne, every Body strives to Congratulate him, because he has carried it from his Brothers; of whom there being commonly many, the Empire always becomes contested, and falls to him that has the greatest Force and the best Success.

*How the
King is
approach'd.*

The King is approach'd with Difficulty and Reverence; and few are admitted into the Heart of his Court. When any great Lord, tho' he be his Relation, would have Audience of him, he pulls off his Frock at his entrance into the Court, being quite naked from the Waist upwards; when he draws near the place where the King is, he throws himself on his Knees, afterwards bows his Head, and with his both Hands strews Sand on his Face and Head, then rises, and repeats the same Ceremony often at such a distance, till he comes within two steps of the King: Being there, he stops, and declares the Motives he had for demanding Audience: His Compliment ended, which is made on the Knee, he rises without daring to look at the King, resting his
Hands

Hands on his Knees, and from time to time fling Sand on his Forehead.

The Prince, who carries it very high to his Subjects, makes a shew as if he scarce heard him, and so diverts himself with something else; yet, however, at last, he vouchsafes him a short Answer, with excessive Gravity. And then the Suppliant rejoyns the Courtiers who are found there.

I don't believe there are any Kings in the World more Absolute, and more Respected than the *Negroes*, which proceeds from their Severity; for on the least Offence of the Subject, an Order is sent to behead him; all his Goods are confiscated, and his whole Family enslaved. The middle sort are happier than the Great, being subject only to Captivity on these Occasions.

How Absolute and Respected he is.

The *Azoaghes*, the *Maraboux*, and the *French*, have much more Liberty than the *Negroes*; and we a great deal more than these. When the *Europeans* approach him, they salute him with Reverence; and he presents them his Hand to lay it on theirs. At this time he ei-

Who are well received by the King.

H ther

How much
he loves
Presents.

ther sits or lies after the Fashion of the Negroes, on a Bed, spread with a Quilt, cover'd with red Leather, with a Pipe in his Mouth; he makes them sit down by him, and asks what they have brought along with them.

What Presents are brought him.

As we never have these Audiences but when we have some Favour to request of him, or to complain of his Officers, or of some Injuries offer'd the Whites, we never come without Presents; which commonly consists in ten or twelve Pots of *Aqua-Vita*, a little Sugar, some Garlick, five or six Ells of Linnen, and some bits of Coral.

Remark on the Reception of Envoys.

When an Envoy has any thing about him that pleases the King, as Coat, Stockings, Shooes, Sword, or Hat; he desires to try them, and then makes them his own; he did thus a little after our arrival to an Envoy of Monsieur *Dancourt*; from whom he took a Brocard Waistcoat, his Stockings, Hat, and Shooes; so that he had been forc'd to return naked, if by chance he had not carried other Cloaths with him, that were of a lesser value than the other.

While

CANARY *Islands*, &c.

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While the *Aqua-Vitæ* lasts, he is never sober; so that their's no expecting an Answer, till it's all out; when he is sober he dismisses the Envoy, giving him two or three Slaves, which he sends to his Guards to take away at the first Village. Miserable are they who fall under their Hands at that time, for they never stand to chuse, but the first at hand serves the present Occasion.

The Presents of the King of the Negroes.

Whatever Care one takes to supply ones self with Provisions when one comes to sollicite any thing at this Court; yet you run the risk of starving; for the King demands them; and eats above one-half himself; and in return, he gives you a Kid, or a quarter of a Cammel, which is very ill Food, a little *Coscouse*, and some Palm-wine.

While I was in this Country, a pleasant thing happen'd; which shews the Power that Presents have over these Kings, and what little Regard they have to Justice: Two little Tributary Kings to *Damel*, were at strife concerning the Succession to a little poor Sovereignty; they were Brother and Son to the late

Remarks on the Injustice of the Negro Kings.

H 2

Prince,

Prince, and bottom'd their Pretensions on divers Reasons, too tedious, and too inconsiderable to be mention'd here. They propos'd to end their Difference by force, or the King's decision; the King having forbid the first, they were forc'd to stand to his Judgment.

On the Day appointed for giving Judgment in their Difference, the two Parties met in the great Place before the Court, accompanied with great Numbers, that seem'd to form two Battalions, about thirty Yards distant from one another; they were arm'd with Darts, Bows, Zagages, Javelins, and Morisco Knives; the King follow'd by six hundred Men, accoutred with their *Gris-Gris's*, appear'd mounted on a fine *Barbary Horse*, and so plac'd himself betwixt the two Rivals.

Tho' they all spoke the same Language, yet they made use of Interpreters, who told the King again what they heard. The Son of the deceas'd ended his Discourse, in remonstrating to him, That seeing it had pleased GOD to bestow the Sovereignty in dispute on his Father, the Right of it now be-

long'd

CANARY *Islands*, &c.

TOI

long'd to him, which he hop'd his Majesty would confirm to him. The King having heard him attentively, said to him with an Air full of Gravity, GOD has given it you, and I give it you again after him.

Such an Answer presently dispers'd the Party of the Uncle, who retir'd all alone. The *Guiriot's* with their Instruments and their Drums, celebrated the Praises of the Victorious, saying to him, You best deserv'd it, the King has done you Justice; for you are more Handsom, more Rich, and more Valiant than he.

While this poor Prince thought to enjoy his Happiness, he was surpris'd to see himself stripp'd next morning of this Sovereignty, with which he was newly Invested; for his Uncle losing no time, made such a noble Present to the King, that he forgot that of his Nephew, and dispossest him in the Morning of that which he had given him the Night before; Installing the other in his Place. This change of Fortune made the *Guiriots* change their Note, and now bestow'd all their Praises on him whom they despis'd before: Such

is the Ferfidiousness both of Prince and Subject.

*What is the
Conduct of
the King
when he
goes a Pro-
gress.*

To return to what concerns the King in particular; when he goes a Progress he has no need of Vivandiers, for he is provided for, by the several Villages through which he passes. They serve him up sometimes 50 wooden Dishes of *Causcoufe*, season'd after several ways; he receives those which agree with his Pallate, and gives the rest to his Attendants, who are frequently as hungry after Dinner as before; for you must know, they have all great Stomachs.

*The Negroes man-
ner of eat-
ing.*

They all eat very nastily, lying along on the Ground, taking it up by handfuls; making no use either of Napkins or Plates. No Body eats with the King but the Grand *Marabou*, or one of the most accomplish'd Lords, and very often he eats alone.

He will by no means suffer the *Thoubabes* (for so he calls us) to see him at Meals; I believe he conceals himself from us, as believing we eat better, and with more Decency than his Custom will allow; or rather, that he is a-

sham'd of his Poverty. Amongst the meaner sort, all of a Family eat together: Their first Dish is *Couscouse*, and when they have done with that, they fall aboard the Flesh, which they tear in Pieces with their Fingers, making no use at all of their Knives; and after they have gnaw'd it, they put it into the Dish again for the next. They use only their Right-hand in eating; which is always at Noon and Night; for they reserve the Left-hand wholly for Labour, and on that account they esteem it an Indecency to eat with it.

The King has several Ministers of ^{*The Officers*} State under him, who assist him in the ^{*of King*} Government, and in the Exercise of Justice. *Condy*, who is a Tributary Sovereign, is after the manner of our Constable, and is General of his Forces, the Grand *Geraff* is the chief Justice throughout all the Dominions of King *Damel*; he goes the Circuits from time to time to execute Justice, and hear the Complaints of the People; and he generally does Justice out of hand, for he punishes a Thief with Slavery. It being a rarity for a Man of a mean

Condition to be inflicted with the Punishment of Death.

The King's *Alzari* Exercises the same Employ as the *Geraff*, but his Power is more limitted : He has under him *Alkaties* or *Alkairs* of great Villages, that are as particular Lords of them.

When a *Negro* is accus'd of any Crime, of which he can't easily be convicted, in order to his Justification, they oblige him to lick a red-hot Iron three times : If it burns him, he is reputed guilty ; if not, he and his Accuser leaves the Court, and the Process falls without Costs.

How and
for what
the Negro
Kings
make upon
one ano-
ther.

The *Negro* Kings go to War with one another on every small Pretext. And when any such Occasion happens, the *Candy* assembles all the great Lords, and the rest of the Subjects ; of which he composes his Cavalry and his Infantry. They seldom have a Body of above 12 or 1500 Men, so that their War is only a sort of Skirmishing Excursion. In all the Kingdom of *Damel* you can scarce raise 200 Horse : The Men of Quality in the Army, especially the Horse,

Horse, are loaded with *Gris-Gris*, as I have already observed; so that when they are once dismounted, they are not able to march four paces on foot.

Their Horse are arm'd with *Zagayes*, which is a sort of a Dart, long and large, with three or four Spears, bigger than those of Arrows, and have several small Hooks, that tears open the wound when they draw it. They can cast these *Zagayes* a great way, and go very rarely without them: Besides these they have a *Cimeter*, and a *Morisco Knife*, about half a Yard long, and two Inches wide: They guard the Blows with a round Buckler made of thick Leather; and tho' they are encumbered with so many Utensils, yet they have their Hands and Arms at liberty, and can fight smartly.

*The Arms
of the
Horse.*

The Foot are arm'd with a *Cimeter*, a *Javelin*, and a *Quiver* fill'd with fifty or sixty poison'd Arrows, that wound mortally, if they are not immediately seer'd with hot Irons.

*The Arms
of the
Foot.*

The

The Teeth of their Iron-headed Arrow produces another miserable effect ; for they can't be drawn back, without making the Wound more dangerous than before.

Their Bow is made of a Cane, resembling that which we call a *Bamboo*. That which they make use of for the String, is another sort of Wood, very curiously fitted up for that purpose. They are so dextrous in shooting out of Bows, that at fifty Yards distance they'll hit a Mark, the breadth of a Crown piece. They march without any order of Discipline, even in the Enemies Country. The *Guiriot's* excite them to Battel by the sound of their Instruments.

As soon as they are within shot, the Infantry discharge their Arrows, and the Horse cast their Javelins. This discharge is follow'd with blows of *Zagayes*. They spare their Enemies as much as possible, that they may make the more Slaves ; from which their Persons of Quality are not exempted. And as they are naked and expert in the using their Bows, &c. their Wars are
always

always very Bloody. They are very resolute, and had rather lose their Lives, than be guilty of the least Cowardice. The despight that is shew'd to a Coward amongst them, and the fear of losing their Liberty, does very much augment their Courage.

Their first shock being over, they often renew it again for two or three Days together; afterwards send a *Marrabou* of each side to treat of a Peace. When they have agreed on the Conditions, they swear upon the *Alcoran*, and by *Mahomet*, to the observing them; tho' they know very little of the one or the other. The Prisoners on either side receive no Benefit of the Treaty, but continue Slaves as if the War was eternal.

*Their way
making
Peace.*

See here the best Account I cou'd give of these Countries, if I can discover any Thing farther, before my return into *Europe*, I shall give you an exact Account thereof, in Compliance with the Desires of my Friends, who enjoyn'd me to communicate my Observations to them. My little knowledge

ledge of Writing, and my indifferent Style, will soon let them see, I am not capable of transmitting to them these Relations. All that they must attribute to me, is Fidelity and Truth in them, which I preferr before all the Romantick amusing Accounts in the World.

F I N I S.

THE
Bookseller's Advertisement
TO THE
READER.

A Particular Person that is very knowing, having travelled the Coasts of Africa, and seen the Author of this Voyage at Gozee, has sent me these following Relations: I thought my self oblig'd to publish them, for the Benefit of the Publick, and affix them to this; withal, acquainting you, that they are not the Remarks of the *Sieur le Maire*:

Rela-

Relations of the Islands
and adjacent Places of the
Rivers of Bresalina,
Gambia, Zamenee,
St. Domingo, Geve,
&c.

The King-
dom of the
Barbasine.

THE Kingdom of the *Barbasines* who are almost all *Mahometan Negroes*) is of small extent, having not above six or seven Leagues of Coast: It joyns with that of the *Joloffes*, beginning at a Village called *Jovalle*, situated on the Sea-Coasts, and inhabited by some *Mulatters* and *Portuguese*. There is another small Village which they call *Coringua*, which is nearer to *Cape Verde*, and a Dependant of *Jovalle*, where commonly they drive the greatest Trade.

About

CANARY *Islands*, &c.

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About six or seven Leagues higher *The River*
Bresalma. you meet with the River *Bresalma*, whose Mouth is very large, but choak'd up with Sand-Beds, that nothing but Canoo's, Shalops, and little Barks can go into the River: The Trade of this Kingdom is very inconsiderable, the Country affording no valuable Commodities; yet the *Portuguese* buy Salt and Provisions here.

On the same Coast, two Leagues *The River*
of Gam-
bia. higher, is the River *Gambia*, which has two Channels for Vessels, one to the North, and another to the South, where Ships of four hundred Tun may easily enter. You must first sound the Passage with a Sloop, for fear of striking upon the Sands: Being pass'd, you meet bending towards the North, the Kingdom of *Baria*; whose King lives a quarter of a League from the Sea. *The King-*
dom of
Baria. The Inhabitants are call'd *Mandingues*, and are for the most part *Mahometans*.

The *Isle of Dogs*, to which you may *The Isle of*
Doggs. go dry-foot at low Water, is directly opposite, in the River. The *French* did formerly inhabit it, but they had their Throats cut by the *Negroes*. Since
which

which it has been wholly deserted, being of no Consequence.

The *Flouppes* Negroes, of whom I shall speak hereafter, are directly at the Entrance of the South-side.

Albroda.

Six Leagues farther up the River to the North is the Town call'd *Albroda*, where, before the War, the *French* had an Establishment: But the *English* have one now, at a Village call'd *Zeelfray*, about a League higher on the same Shoar.

They have also a Regular Fort in the Island over against it; which is not above half a quarter of a League about, built on a gravelly Rock.

This Fort has above fifty Pieces of Cannon mounted, which are of no great use for want of Men to manage them: They are forc'd to fetch all their Water and Wood from the main Land. These are they who have the best share of all the Trade that is driven on this River; which chiefly consists in *Negro* Slaves, Ivory, and Wax. It is Navigable above two hundred Leagues.

A
DESCRIPTION
OF THE
River ZAMENEE.

THE River *Zamenee* is inhabited by several sorts of *Negroes*, those at its Mouth towards the North call themselves *Floupes*, a People extreamly Savage, with whom no Nation has any Commerce. They are all *Pagans*; having every one his God according to his particular Inclinations; one worships a *Bullocks Horn*, another a *Beast*, or a *Tree*, to whom they offer Sacrifice according to their own manner. *Islands of the Negroes.*

Their Dress is like those of *Cape Verd*, and the Inhabitants of the *River* *Gambia*, which consists in a Piece

I of

of Cotton Cloth, striped after the manner of the Country, which barely covers their nakedness.

*Have no
Kings.*

They have no succession of Kings, the most Absolute and most Powerful amongst them Commands.

*Their
Riches.*

They understand Cultivation very well, and make very good Improvements of their Lands, which they sow with Mill and Rice. Their Riches consists in Bullocks, Cows, Goats; of which some of them have great quantities. They possess the Coast all along as far as the River *Gambia*, and about six Leagues into the Land. Their Towns are well Peopled, and about a quarter of a League distant one from another.

*The Cruel-
ties of the
Negroes
or Floup-
pes.*

The *Negroes* or *Filoupes* that inhabit the South Entrance of this River, are exceeding barbarous and cruel; for when they can catch any white Men they give 'em no quarter; and some say they eat them.

These are in possession of the Country all along the Coast to a Town called *Boulol*, which stands at the Mouth of the River of *St. Domingo*. This Coast is much better Peopled than that of

Gam-

CANARY *Islands, &c.*

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Gambia : The Villages are about two Leagues distant one from another, and about half a League from the Sea.

About seven or eight Leagues farther, the ebbing and flowing of the Sea makes a little River, which leads to the Town of *Jam*, where the *Portuguese* make great Quantities of Wax, which they traffick with by Land to *Gambia* and *Cacheaux*.

The adjacent Countries are inhabited by *Negroes* who are call'd *Bagnons*; and these have a King that lives twelve or thirteen Leagues from the Sea.

A
 DESCRIPTION
 OF THE
 River St. Domingo.

*The River
 of St. Do-
 mingo.*

THE River of St. Domingo runs from East to West, winding a matter of two hundred Leagues. 'Tis also inhabited by different sorts of Negroes, and by the Portuguese, who have several Towns there.

At the North Entrance of it there is small Fort belonging to the Portuguese, mounted with four Guns, and commanded by Serjeant and four Soldiers.

Four Leagues higher on the same Shoar, near the Village of Boulet, is the little River of Linguim, which runs a
 mat-

matter of nine or ten Leagues under Ground, and then loses it self. It is posselt and cultivated by the *Bagnon Negroes*, who are all Idolaters, and very much dreaded by their Neighbours.

The Village of *Quongain* is directly at its Entrance, where abundance of *Portuguese* and *Gourmets* inhabit, who make great store of Wax there.

The River *Boguinda* is on the same Coast, about three Leagues higher than the Tide comes: It spreads it self twelve or fifteen Leagues into the Land, inhabited by the same sort of People, who, as I have told you before, traffick altogether with Wax. 'Tis the ordinary Passage from *Cacheau* to *Jam*.

*The River
Boguinda.*

On the Entrance of the River of *St. Domingo* to the South, is a large Wood called *Matteformose*; and a Village inhabited by the *Flouppes*, much more civiliz'd than those I have mention'd before: With whom a Trade is maintain'd for Slaves and Provisions, but chiefly for great Quantities of Rice.

*The Wood
of Matte-
formose.*

Going up the River about two Leagues, you meet with a small Rivulet, which is not Navigable, but separates the *Floupes* from the *Papels*.

*The Papels
Sacrifice.*

The *Papels* are *Pagan Negroes*, all Idolaters, as the former. They have a King who dwels five or six Leagues from them: When any considerable Person dies, they sacrifice Bullocks, Cows, Kids, and Capon to their Gods, which are for the most part one or more Trees, the Horn of an Ox, &c.

*The Town
of Ca-
cheau.*

In the same Road, about four Leagues higher, you find the Town of *Cacheau*, now in the Hands of the *Portuguese*, who have three Forts there; the chief of which may have about ten or twelve Guns, and the other two, three, or four each. A Captain-Major has the Government of it, who has a dependance on the Governor of *Cape Verd*, they are every Year recruited with thirty or forty *Portuguese* Soldiers, who are generally banish'd Criminals; they supplying the Places of those who die for want of wholesome Diet, by necessity, or by an over-addicting them-

themselves. to Women. 'Tis design'd them a Place of Exile, tho' they often find it happy enough. There may be about three hundred Inhabitants in the Town, who are for the most part *Mul-lato's*; the other may have Wives or Concubines.

There is in the Town a Receiver of the King's Customs; for the Ships that come to traffick there pay ten *per Cent.* for coming in and going out. There is a *Grefferi* or Writer, who holds the Place both of Publick Notary and Sheriff: 'tis the Governor who administers Justice. There is a Parochial Church, a Curate, and a Visitator, who is in the Nature of the great Vicar of *France*; for he always makes Visitations on behalf the Bishop of *St. James*.

There is also a Convent of *Capuchins*, where there are seldom more than three or four Religious.

The Inhabitants of the Town have little Boats and Barks, in which they trade on the Rivers of *Nonne*, *Pougues*, *Serlione*, and to the Islands of the *Beza-*

gots, where they have a great Commerce with Wax, Slaves, and some small pieces of Ivory.

The Town
of Farim.

The Portuguese have yet another Town, a great way higher up the River, about one hundred and fifty Leagues from *Cacheau*, call'd *Farim*, pallasod'd round; but the Inhabitants are not so numerous as at *Cacheau*; tho' the greatest part of them, have *Somer-Houses* here, where their *Gourmet's* make *Calico's*, and some small quantities of Wax. There is also a Curate, and a Captain-Major, who is dependant on the Town of *Cacheau*. The Negroes that inhabit the adjacent Countries are call'd *Mau-dingues*: All the Villages from *Cacheau* to *Farim* are Peopled by the *Gourmets* of the Portuguese, who gather Cotton, &c.

The Three
Islands.

Going Southward out of the River of *St. Domingo*, you meet several Islands, the first is call'd the *Three Islands*, which effectively has that Figure. Possessed by the *Gourmets* or *Negroes*, who have freed themselves from the Slavery of the Portuguese; and most of them, tho' they

they are baptis'd, have renounc'd the Catholick Faith. They cultivate this Island, which produces great store of Cotton, of which they make their Cloth. They have Cannoo's to serve them in their Traffick with the *Negroes* of the Continent. The Place which they pass is call'd the *Bott*. They are very careful not to let any Vessels or Barks approach their Island.

Over-against it is the Island of *Bussi*, The Isle of Bussi. in Possession of the *Papels*, who have a King not very Absolute. The Sea is so shallow there, that one may pass to it without being up to the mid-leg.

'Tis dangerous trading with them, Their Treachery. till their ways are thoroughly known; for their strange mistrust, makes them believe there is no Sincerity in us. I know that several *English* and *Dutch*, have been there massacred for endeavouring to trade with them. They abound in Provisions, as Oxen, Fowl, Fish, Mill, &c. but they are of a very indifferent relish. Their Island is about ten Leagues in Circuit, and has two Ports, the one to the East, which is call'd

call'd *Old Port* ; the other to the South, which call'd *White-stone Harbour*.

*The Village
of Caze-
lut.*

Right over-against it, is the Village of *Cazelut*, and many small Islands which are not inhabited. Very near it you find the Island of *Bisseaux*, about two Leagues distant. A Vessel of three hundred *Tun* may pass betwixt them both, if the Channel be well known. 'Tis about forty Leagues in compass; the *Papel Negroes* that inhabit it are almost all *Pagans*. There are in this Island nine Kings; which one is superior to the other eight; which properly are no more than Deputy-Governors.

*Their Cru-
elty when
any of their
Kings die.*

When any of the King's die, they take care to strangle above thirty Persons, chiefly the young Girls, and those Slaves that have been the most faithful to the Deceas'd, whom they bury along with them. They put with him into his *Tomb* all his Riches, as his Gold, Silver, Amber Gris, Stuffs, &c.

When

When they chuse another 'tis after this manner ; they are only the *Georges* that make Pretensions, which are, as I may say, the Dukes and Peers of *France*. They gather together in a Ring, in the middle of which is the *Tomb* of the deceas'd King, made of Reeds and very light Wood, which is sustain'd in the Air by several *Negroes*, who in dancing toss it up, and he on whom it falls, they chuse for their King in the room of the Deceas'd : they often sacrifice to their Gods, *Bullocks*, *Capons*, *Kids*, &c. There are several good Harbours in this Island, the best of which is call'd *Port-Risseaux*, where Ships of sixty Guns may ride at Anchor in safety. The King's Palace is within half a League of it : there is one Parish, and a Convent of *Capuchins* ; several of the *Portuguese* are married to the *Negresses* of the Country.

How they elect their Kings.

There are several of those Heathens Sons have received Baptism, and embrac'd the Catholick Doctrine. The King has his Guards, his Army, and several

veral Women of all Ages. He has about fifty Cannoo's of War man'd with about thirty Men each. For their Arms they have only a Cimiter hanging on their Shoulders by a short Belt. And are Cloath'd only with the Skin of a Kid, which hangs loose behind, and is fasten'd before betwixt their Legs, to hide their Nudities. They go to War against the *Biaffares*, who inhabited the Continent, twice or thrice a Year.

*Their Arms
and Habit.*

The *Portuguese* formerly built a Fort there, mounted with eight Guns, to hinder Strangers from coming to that Isle, that they might engross it all to themselves: But the *Negroes* will not suffer it, for they are all Sticklers for the Liberties of their Country, which occasions a welcome to all manner of Strangers, that come to traffick in their Ports, who may Negotiate in the Island with all imaginable Security, without dreading any Insult, if you offer none. When you arrive at their Ports, you are not suffer'd to land till the King has sacrific'd a Bullock;

lock ; which done, you have liberty to disembark.

Just over-against the Port is an Island call'd *Sortiere*, full of *Trees*, where the *Negroes* make their grand Sacrifices every Year, in which the King himself assists. Vessels anchor very safely there.

A
DESCRIPTION
OF THE
River *GEVA*.

*The River
Geva.*

THE River of *Geva* winds it self about 70 Leagues into the Continent, from North-East to South-West. All the Villages of either side (which are about a League from the Sea) are inhabited by the *Biaffares*. At the Entrance of the River, towards the North, is a Village call'd *Gouffode*, about a League from the Harbour: there it is where Bullocks and Poultry are to be sold; and they also traffick for some Slaves.

On

On the same River, abous five Leagues higher, is the Town of *Geva*; the greatest part is possessed by the *Portuguese* and *Gournets*, which is encompass'd with *Pallasadoes*.

They have a Parish-Church, a Curate, and a Captain who commands them, and is dependent on the Governor of *Cacheau*: The adjacent Places are inhabited by the *Negro Biaffares*; most of the *Portuguese* have Barks in the Port, in which they trade to *Serlienne*, with a sort of Fruit call'd *Cocters*, which both in shape and taste resembles the *Marous* of *India*; they are both white and red, for which they drive a great trade, especially with the *Biaffares* and *Mandingues*. They also send their Barks to trade with the *Bizagot Negroes* on the River *Nounne* for Elephants Teeth, &c. Indigo in the Leaf, which they die their Cloaths with.

The Barks can go no higher than *Goree*; but their Cannoo's will go up several little Rivers of small note. Just over-against the Port you meet with several

The Isle of
Boulam.

several little Islands, especially that of Boulam; well stock'd with Trees, and about six Leagues in compass, lying just at the Entrance of the River *Rio-grando*, but not inhabited. The other Islands are so inconsiderable, I do not think it worth while to mention them. I shall say nothing of *Cape-Verd*, *Senegal*, or the *Canary Islands*, understanding that the *Sieur le Maire*, with the Assistance of *Monfieur D' Ancourt* has said more than I am capable of saying.

F I N I S.

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